

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 44 : ISSUE 94

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2010

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Panel: Perfectionism an issue at ND

Event sponsored by the Gender Relations Center examines competition on campus

By EMILY SCHRANK
News Writer

Competition and perfectionism are prevalent issues at Notre Dame — often much more serious than they are considered to be, three experts said Monday evening.

The Gender Relations Center presented “The Fighting Irish: Harder, Better, Faster, Stronger” as a part of their Signature Series in the Carey Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library. The lecture featured Daniel Lapsley, chair of the Psychology Department, Rita Donley, associate director of the University Counseling Center

and Sondra Byrnes, a guided meditation instructor who is also a professor in the Mendoza College of Business.

Lapsley focused on the psychological explanations of perfectionism.

“There is a basic theme that perfectionism is a disorder or defect,” he said. “A perfectionist seeks and strives for unrealistic goals, evaluates stringently and self-censors against unattainable standards.”

According to Lapsley, the three developmental accounts of perfectionism share a common thread: interactions with demanding, perfectionist par-

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SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer
Sondra Byrnes, a professor in the Mendoza College of Business, discusses perfectionism at Notre Dame Monday.

Schmidt, Weber prep for term end

By SARAH MERVOSH
Assistant News Editor

With a month and a half left in office, student body president Grant Schmidt and vice president Cynthia Weber outlined what they wish to accomplish by the end of their tenure Monday.

The Schmidt-Weber administration will officially conclude April 1 when student body president-elect Catherine Soler and vice president-elect Andrew Bell take over.

Schmidt named off-campus safety, academic issues and improving community as three overarching priorities.

“There won’t be a lot of new projects. We’re just going to make sure we kind of finish off and complete all the things that have been developing throughout the year,” he said.

Schmidt said off-campus safety will always be a priority and he would like to continue working with the University and city to improve safety for students while off campus.

Weber said they want to install a light at the corner of Twyckenham Drive and Vaness Street.

“The idea is a flashing yellow light that students could push when they walk across to guarantee their safety,” she said.

Student government will

see SCHMIDT/page 4

LaFortune cluster opening pushed back



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer
Students work in the computer cluster in DeBartolo Hall. The LaFortune computer cluster is undergoing renovations.

By IRENA ZAJICKOVA
News Writer

Students hoping to be able to use the LaFortune Student Center computer cluster will have to wait for a few more weeks.

Shipping delays have slowed the renovations, pushing the tentative opening date back a month, said Brian Burchett, Classroom and Computer Lab Spaces manager for the Office of Information and Technology (OIT).

“We had thought originally that it would be done around [Feb. 1], but we ran into two issues that delayed it,” Burchett said. “The furniture order was delayed until this week but the bigger obstacle

right now is that the carpet order took longer than expected.”

Burchett said the carpet is supposed to arrive on campus next week, and if all goes as planned, the cluster should reopen sometime during the first week of March.

“We never intended it to be out of service this long and we know that students are really eager to have it back,” Burchett said. “It will be back soon, and we think that students will really like it.”

The renovation is “a facelift with a few new things added,” Burchett said. The changes include a smaller service counter, two group study rooms and individual worksta-

see CLUSTER/page 4

Students, faculty continue to support Haiti

ND senior's charity looks beyond Africa to raise funds to aid country

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

The Eyes on Africa Foundation, the charity founded by senior Jeff Lakusta, is branching out to aid the relief effort in Haiti.

Eyes on Africa Helps Haiti, an outlet of the Eyes on Africa Foundation, is donating funds raised through wine sales, founder of Eyes on Africa Jeff

Lakusta, a senior, said.

“We started it in response to the crisis in Haiti as a way to pull aid and draw awareness from our unique group of college-aged supporters,” Lakusta said.

The donations are coming from wineries that have agreed to donate a portion of proceeds from each case of wine sold to Eyes on Africa Helps Haiti and

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Photo courtesy of Jeff Lakusta
Senior Jeff Lakusta, center, is using his charity, The Eyes on Africa Foundation, to raise money for Haiti.

College continues to focus on sending money to various relief organizations

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

As relief efforts for Haiti continue, Saint Mary's College has also continued to do its part in collecting funds for donation.

The College has been focusing on helping the American Red Cross, Catholic Relief Services and the Sisters of Holy Cross and Friends of the Orphans, Carrie Call, director of the Office of Civic and Social

Engagement, said.

Call said the agencies are only asking for monetary

donations, so the College has no plans to host drives for tangible items such as toiletries.

The Office has continued

see HAITI/page 6

See Also
“Lecture analyzes pressing need in Haiti”
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INSIDE COLUMN

'Earmuff Girl'

Here at Notre Dame, there is a league of students that exist in a league that is all their own. They walk among us, and unlike snobby secret societies, they march boldly to and from DeBartolo and in and out of the dining hall. We all know them. Notre Dame people-watching is defined by them. They are our beloved campus caricatures.



Jess Shaffer

Scene Editor

You don't know what I'm talking about? We'll that's just a problem of terminology. A campus caricature is someone who has so perfectly and (relatively) eccentrically defined their external behavior that they can be universally recognized and identified on campus.

You may know them as Tex or Daisy Duke. Or you may know them as "the chick that always wears cutoffs" and the "the guy in cowboy hat." And these are just a few. The point is, you might not know their name, dorm, major or hometown, but you undoubtedly recognize them. And everyone else does too.

While I always had a fond appreciation for my favorite caricatures, I never aspired to their lofty heights. But as Shakespeare wrote, "Some men are born great. Some achieve greatness. And some have greatness thrust upon them." I guess the same goes for women.

This Christmas, everything changed. When I unwrapped a small sparkly bag from my grandparents, I didn't think this present was going to have such a profound effect on me. But then I pulled out a pair of earmuffs.

These are not just any earmuffs. These are earmuff that accidentally got dropped into radioactive waste and came out three times as large, and three times as cool as your average ear protective gear. Essentially, they are superhuman earmuffs.

Warm, inordinately fuzzy and furry and amply disproportionate to my head (granted, I have an abnormally small head), these earmuffs are now on my list of favorite things. Yes, they are indeed worthy of a song sung by Julie Andrews.

Well, apparently these earmuffs, and my frequent use of them in this frigid winter months, qualifies me to join the special league of campus caricatures. It honestly never occurred to me that they'd be noticeably eccentric on such a wide scale. Not until a fortuitous night, where an (albeit slightly drunken classmate) exclaimed "It's Earmuff Girl! All my friends, we call you earmuff girl!"

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, I am worthy of my own caricature title — Earmuff Girl. Of course, the consequential jokes of "huh, can you hear me through those?!" and Princess Leia references follow. But tease and joke all you want. At least through March, I will proudly be Earmuff Girl! And admit it — you're a little jealous of my coolness. Don't worry, I'm humble enough to admit my surprise at the situation but am more than happy to embrace it. Because as Bill said sometimes greatness is just thrust upon you, or in this case gifted to you.

So thank you for nominating me to join the illustrious league of campus caricatures; I proudly accept. I would like not only to thank the academy, God, my friends and family, but most especially my grandparents. Best. Christmas Present. Ever.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaffe1@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE WINTER OLYMPIC SPORT?



Jeremy Lamb
sophomore
Knott

"Four-man bobsled. Hoping to see Jamaica turn in another strong performance."



Brian Wysocki
junior
Fisher

"Shaun White's interviews! I was taking notes. On ... that ..."



Kallie Drexler
sophomore
Walsh

"Biathlon, it's like Texas in the winter!"



Zak Kapopoulos
sophomore
Keenan

"Luge, it's a killer sport."



Huong Ngo
senior
Ryan

"It's a tie between figure skating and snowboarding because I love Shaun White."

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail observer.questions@gmail.com



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Cold weather does not stop midnight shenanigans on campus, resulting in a bicycle left high in a tree on South Quad Monday.

OFFBEAT

Unemployed Ohio man chills out in igloo

AQUILLA, Ohio — It's quite the man cave.

Jimmy Grey says he's been out of work for almost a year and needed a project to stay busy. So with the heavy snowfall this winter, the 25-year-old laborer got to work on an extreme igloo in his family's yard in Aquilla (ah-KWIL'-uh), about 30 miles east of Cleveland.

His four-room creation has 6-foot ceilings and an entertainment room. He powers the TV with an extension cord plugged into an outlet in the

garage. He also ran wires for cable television with surround-sound stereo.

Grey says candles help add ambiance for nighttime get-togethers with friends, and the freezing temperatures mean that the beer never goes warm.

Nevada police officer saved from bullet by badge

LAS VEGAS — A police officer's badge may have saved his life when it stopped a bullet during an exchange of gunfire in North Las Vegas.

Police say the 31-year-old officer was patrolling

just before 10 p.m. Saturday when he heard shots being fired in an apartment complex.

While investigating, the officer came upon a person with a gun and opened fire. The officer returned fire and was hit. But the bullet hit the badge, and the officer suffered only minor injuries.

The person with the gun fled.

Police continued to search Sunday for the suspect, who might also be injured.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Notre Dame German Club is hosting a traditional "Fasching" Mardi Gras event tonight at 7 p.m. at Legends. Food and music will be provided. Students and faculty are invited and admission is \$2.

An exhibit titled "Expanding the Boundaries: Selected Drawings from the Yvonne and Gabriel P. Weisberg Collection" will be on display at 10 a.m. today in the O'Shaughnessy Galleries West of the Snite Museum of Art.

Daily Mass will be held at 11:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. today in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

"Catholic and Costa Rican: Bishops' Discourse over Free Trade" will begin at 12:30 p.m. today. The lecture will be held in Room C103 of the Hesburgh Center.

The Department of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering will host a seminar on "Environmental Effects on Tissue-engineered Cartilage" today at 3:30 p.m. in Room 138 of DeBartolo Hall.

The Institute for Latino Studies will hold "A Place at the Table: A Conversation with Janet Murguía on the Latino Agenda in 2010" today at 4 p.m. in Room 210-214 of McKenna Hall.

The Bengal Bouts quarterfinals will be held at 6 p.m. tonight in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse. Tickets will be sold for \$6.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews@nd.edu

	TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 31 LOW 22	HIGH 28 LOW 23	HIGH 32 LOW 23	HIGH 29 LOW 20	HIGH 29 LOW 18	HIGH 28 LOW 19

Atlanta 38 / 24 Boston 33 / 26 Chicago 31 / 21 Denver 41 / 23 Houston 56 / 33 Los Angeles 76 / 52 Minneapolis 29 / 4 New York 34 / 27 Philadelphia 34 / 26 Phoenix 77 / 50 Seattle 54 / 38 St. Louis 33 / 19 Tampa 55 / 43 Washington 38 / 26

SMC panel analyzes future of Haitian culture

Misconceptions on national identity discussed; disease, poverty highlighted as areas in need of continued aid

By CAROLYNN SMITH
News Writer

Despite the devastation of the Jan. 12 earthquake, Haiti is a beautiful country with a rich culture, three panelists said Monday.

A discussion, "Windows on the World of Haiti: Politics, Culture and Faith Perspectives," was held Monday afternoon in Stapleton Lounge at Saint Mary's.

The discussion was sponsored by the Justice Education Program, the Office of Civic and Social Engagement and Campus Ministry.

The panel included Dr. Karen Richman of Notre Dame's Kellogg Institute, Dr. Marie Denise Milord, a native of Haiti and fellow with Notre Dame Haiti Program and Sr. Mary Louise Gude, vice president for Mission at Saint Mary's College.

The panel discussed the importance of learning more about understanding Haiti and its needs. The panel discussed why extreme poverty persists in the country and that we need to continue to assist Haiti in their current time of need.

"As an anthropologist I have

been involved with Haitians for more than three decades," Richman said.

Richman examined the history of the country of Haiti dating back to Columbus and looked at how the island came to be inhabited and how it has changed. She said that today, just like in the past, there have been misconceptions about the Haitian people.

"Thinking about Haiti, we have to put aside a lot of our stereotypes," Richman said.

Milord, a native of Haiti, looked back on the country of her childhood.

"Looking back, we had a beautiful, peaceful country. Back then there was no insecurity. We grew up being proud of being Haitian. And we still are proud of being Haitian but things have changed a lot," Milord said.

Milord also spoke about health and the spread of diseases in Haiti. She said lymphatic filariasis, commonly known as elephantiasis, is widespread in the country.

Mosquitoes spread lymphatic filariasis from person to person.

"We still have a lot of people to treat," Milord said. "We have partners that are committed to fight diseases."



A child stands in a refugee camp in the Cite Soleil neighborhood of Port-au-Prince after the Jan. 12 earthquake. A Saint Mary's lecture focused Haitian national identity and the future of assistance for the devastated country.

Gude said the priests and sisters of Holy Cross have made significant progress in their missions in Haiti, and she said the order has fared well in the aftermath of the earthquake.

"Unlike many communities, Holy Cross only lost one person

in the earthquake. I have wonderful memories of Holy Cross priests, the most joyous groups of people I have ever met in my life," Gude said.

All three women said they are hopeful that all the money going into the country will assist those

in need.

"I hope also that this money that is available will use the indicated avenues to reach the people," Milord said.

Contact Carolyn Smith at csmith02@saintmarys.edu

Recognize Excellence

Nominations are sought for two awards that recognize excellence in teaching and advising.

Dockweiler Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising

Student, faculty and staff nominations are sought to identify faculty or professional staff members whose involvement with undergraduates inspires students to reach their academic and career goals. Nominees may be members of the academic advising and career counseling staffs or members of the faculty and staff who:

- Facilitate learning outside the classroom
- Serve as mentors or role models
- Encourage student participation in fellowships, internships, undergraduate research and post-graduate opportunities
- Cultivate relationships with organizations that recruit Notre Dame graduates

Nominations are due Monday, March 1. Three faculty or staff will be chosen.

Submit online nominations at provostawards.nd.edu.

The Joyce Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

Student and faculty nominations are sought to identify faculty who:

- Create environments that stimulate significant student learning
- Elevate students to a new level of intellectual engagement
- Foster students' ability to express themselves effectively within the discipline

Nominations due by Monday, March 1. Nineteen recipients will be selected.



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Schmidt

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work with the city, the county and the University to establish plans and obtain funding.

Schmidt said he also plans to launch an off-campus housing Web site, rent.nd.edu, to help improve off-campus safety.

"It's like an ND Today for off-campus housing and sponsored by the University," he said. "We want students to know where the safe spots are to go and the legitimate places to live."

Schmidt and Weber said they will also prioritize improving the community at Notre Dame, including efforts to create a more inclusive atmosphere for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) community.

"A lot of people are concerned with the acceptance of gay and lesbian members of the community and we are continuing the have conversations about that," he said. "That is something that is definitely on our radar."

Though acceptance of the LGBTQ community will be an ongoing issue, Schmidt said he hopes to make significant changes before April 1.

"I can say that there will be concrete ways in which we will garner much more student input when it comes to gay and lesbian representation on campus," he said.

Schmidt also hopes to pass a medical amnesty resolution at Wednesday's Student Senate meeting. The medical amnesty policy would protect a student who has been drinking from

getting in trouble if the student were to help a friend in an emergency, he said.

"A student should not be deterred from helping someone else in an emergency situation," he said.

Additionally, Schmidt and Weber said they will work to improve the Notre Dame community by working on student relationships with rectors, finishing the Global Water Initiative and giving recommendations for revisions to du Lac.

Schmidt said they will also work on academic issues during the remainder of their tenure and named discussing the cancellation of the Economics and Policy Studies department as a priority.

"There has been thought that the econometrics side should be focused on much more than the policy side," Schmidt said. "But there are students who have thought that the classes that are offered on the policy side are extremely important in having a well-rounded education."

"We are huge advocates for not dissolving that department."

Other plans include more student involvement in the selection of the commencement speaker, a continued effort to work with the Transpo bus and taxis to provide safe transportation and recommendations for next year's pep rallies.

"Overall, I think a lot of our big issues are pushing for a consistent student voice in a lot of the decisions that are made throughout the University," Schmidt said. "And we hope that student government can continue to be that channel."

Schmidt said he will also work



Observer file photo

Student body president Grant Schmidt and student body vice president Cynthia Weber cite off-campus safety and a medical amnesty policy as priorities for the rest of their term, which ends April 1.

to make the transition for the incoming administration as smooth as possible.

"Especially now that we have a month and a half, a lot of these projects are not meant to be extremely visible. We just want Catherine and Andrew to be as successful as they can be," Schmidt said.

"Once you hit election time, that last month and a half are just making sure that things are ready to be addressed by a new group of students," he said.

Schmidt said he was happy with what he and Weber accomplished during their tenure.

"In regards to our platform,

we have been able to accomplish the majority of our initiatives," he said. "Our hope is that students do think that we've done our job this year and that they're confident in student government."

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

Cluster

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tions around the cluster's perimeter.

There will also be furniture in the middle of the cluster so students can bring their own laptops and work individually or in small groups. A window will also be installed in the door that separates the cluster from the adjoining East Lounge to connect the two rooms visually.

Burchett said the room will be more cheerful as well as more eco-friendly.

"I think that before it was really dark. I think it's got a much happier color scheme," Burchett said. "The lighting is bright and the lighting is also much more energy efficient now."

The plan to renovate the LaFortune computer cluster began in the spring semester of 2008. Burchett and other OIT staff members worked with architecture students on the project.

"The things the students came up with were really awesome designs. We had to cut some of their aesthetic ideas," Burchett

said. "We kept as much as we could but some of the things they wanted to do just would have driven up the cost of the project. I think we kept the essential things — the group work space and reclaiming some of the wasted space."

Burchett said working with the students was a success and

he hopes to bring more students in to help with renovation and design projects in the future.

"[Working with the architecture students] was really a lot of fun and its the sort of thing we'd like to do again, whether its an architecture class or an industrial design class," Burchett said. "I think it adds a certain energy to the project when we can bring in the students in that fashion."

According to Burchett, the furniture in the cluster had not been upgraded for 18 years, making the renovation a top priority.

"I think when it's all put together its going to be a much happier place to work," Burchett said.

Contact Irena Zajickova at izajicko@nd.edu

"I think that before it was really dark."

Brian Burchett
Classroom and Computer
Lab Spaces manager
OIT

"I think it's got a much happier color scheme."

Brian Burchett
Classroom and Computer
Lab Spaces manager
OIT

WHAT'S THE FUTURE OF THIS RELATIONSHIP?

Are you graduating, transitioning, moving on?

Thursday, Feb. 18th or Friday, Feb. 19th
330 Coleman-Morse Center, 5:30 - 6:15 pm

An opportunity to evaluate your relationship, compare areas of compatibility and talk about the future.

For more information, please contact John or Sylvia Dillon at Campus Ministry.
(574) 631 - 7163 or dillon.14@nd.edu or dillion.15@nd.edu

Visit www.ndsmcobserver.com

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Irish bishops urged to admit blame

ROME — A top Vatican prelate has told Irish bishops at an extraordinary Vatican summit with Pope Benedict XVI they must admit their own blame in cover-ups of generations of sex abuse of minors, or risk losing the faith of Ireland's Catholics.

But the former Dublin altar boy who helped expose the scandal doubted that any real hierarchy housekeeping would result from the two days of talks behind closed doors in the Apostolic Palace.

Benedict's top aide, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, delivered a stinging homily at a Mass before Monday's talks decrying the "particularly abhorrent deeds" of some in the Irish church hierarchy, although he didn't name any names.

Trains collide in fatal crash

BRUSSELS — A rush-hour commuter train sped through a red signal and slammed into an oncoming train as it left a suburban Brussels station, killing at least 18 people and disrupting rail traffic in northern Europe.

Investigations into one the worst accidents on the Belgian rails were likely to focus on whether human error was responsible or if it could have been influenced by the persistently freezing temperatures that have iced up the European capital.

Officials said 80 people were injured, 20 of them seriously in Monday's crash. The death toll — 15 men and three women — was not considered final.

NATIONAL NEWS

Radio host challenges McCain

PHOENIX — Conservative talk-radio host J.D. Hayworth has kicked off his campaign challenging longtime Republican Senator John McCain.

Hayworth began his campaign Monday with a rally in Phoenix and is set to go on a three-day tour across Arizona.

"Arizona needs strong, reliable, conservative leadership ... to stand up to the Democrats' leftist agenda and offer the conservative solutions we need to get our country moving again," Hayworth said, as he positions himself as the race's reliable conservative.

Conservatives in Arizona have long been skeptical of McCain, in part, for working with Democrats on such issues as campaign finance reform and immigration. McCain has however evaded political threats from the right and lately has staked out solidly conservative positions.

Snow leads to roof collapse

ROSTRAYER, Pa. — Heavy snow buildup from recent storms likely contributed to the collapse of an ice rink roof, causing a panicked evacuation but no injuries, a fire official and the building's owner said.

"We believe it was excessive weight from the copious quantities of snow that we've had over the past 10 days," Jim Murphy, who has owned the Rostraver Ice Garden since 1993, said Monday. "We believe a laminated wood truss broke and that caused two other ones to go and the roof to pancake in that area."

The region has gotten more than two feet of snow in the past week and a half. Justin Shawley, assistant chief of the Rostraver Central Volunteer Fire Company, also said snow and ice buildup may have contributed to the collapse.

LOCAL NEWS

Hoosier Motor club sees layoffs

INDIANAPOLIS — The AAA Hoosier Motor Club is closing its emergency road service call center in Indianapolis in a cost-cutting move that it says will eliminate 61 jobs.

The organization says it is outsourcing its call center operations to sites in Oklahoma City and Glendale, Ariz., with other AAA motor clubs. The layoffs are expected to begin in April and be completed in June.

Hoosier Motor Club spokesman Greg Seiter says the organization made the move to prevent greater increases in its membership costs. He said closing the call center would save about \$500,000 a year.

QATAR

Clinton: Iran a 'military dictatorship'

Secretary wary of Revolutionary Guard Corps gaining too much power

Associated Press

DOHA — U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Monday that Iran is becoming a military dictatorship, a new U.S. accusation in the midst of rising tensions with Iran over its nuclear ambitions and crack down on anti-government protesters.

Speaking to Arab students at Carnegie Mellon's Doha campus, Clinton said Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps appears to have gained so much power that it effectively is supplanting the government.

"Iran is moving toward a military dictatorship," she said. "That is our view."

Last week the U.S. Treasury Department announced that it was freezing the assets in U.S. jurisdictions of a Revolutionary Guard general and four subsidiaries of a previously penalized construction company he runs because of their alleged involvement in producing and spreading weapons of mass destruction.

The Revolutionary Guard has long been a pillar of Iran's regime as a force separate from the ordinary armed forces. The Guard now has a hand in every critical area, including missile development, oil resources, dam building, road construction, telecommunications and nuclear technology.

It also has absorbed the paramilitary Basij as a full-fledged part of its command structure — giving the militia greater funding and a stronger presence in Iran's internal politics.

Asked if the U.S. is planning a military attack on Iran, Clinton said "no."

The U.S. is focused on gaining international support for sanctions "that will be particularly aimed at those enterprises controlled by the Revolutionary Guard, which we believe is in effect supplanting the government of Iran," she said.

Meanwhile, a semi-official



Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks at a press conference in Qatar. During her visit she spoke about Iran moving towards a military dictatorship.

news agency quoted the head of Iran's nuclear program as saying the country received a new proposal last week from the United States, Russia and France, three of the countries trying to rein in Tehran's uranium enrichment program.

Iran said that it was studying the joint proposal purportedly made after the country announced last week it had begun enriching uranium to a higher level than previously acknowledged. The ILNA news agency quoted Ali Akbar Salehi as saying various countries have also offered Iran proposals on a nuclear fuel swap, adding that Iran is reviewing all the proposals. He did not provide any more details.

The Obama administra-

tion is trying to "send a message to Iran — a very clear message" that the U.S. is still open to engagement "but that we will not stand idly by while you pursue a nuclear program that can be used to threaten your neighbors and even beyond," Clinton said.

Later, as she boarded her plane for the next stop on her Middle East trip, Clinton said, "The civilian leadership is either preoccupied with its internal political situation or is ceding ground to the Revolutionary Guard."

She told reporters traveling with her that it appears the Revolutionary Guard is in charge of Iran's controversial nuclear program and the country changing course "depends on whether the clerical and political leader-

ship begin to reassert themselves."

She added: "I'm not predicting what will happen but I think the trend with this greater and greater military lock on leadership decisions should be disturbing to Iranians as well as those of us on the outside."

Clinton said the Iran that could emerge is "a far cry from the Islamic Republic that had elections and different points of view within the leadership circle. That is part of the reason that we are so concerned with what we are seeing going on there."

In her Doha appearance, Clinton also said she foresees a possible breakthrough soon in stalled peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians.

Sen. Evan Bayh will not seek re-election

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sen. Evan Bayh, a centrist Democrat from Indiana, announced Monday that he won't seek a third term in Congress, giving Republicans a chance to pick up a Senate seat.

"To put it in words I think most people can understand: I love working for the people of Indiana, I love helping our citizens make the most of their lives, but I do not love Congress," Bayh said at a news conference in Indianapolis, where he was joined by his wife and two sons.

The departure of Bayh, who was on President Barack Obama's short list of

vice presidential candidate prospects in 2008, continues a recent exodus from Congress among both Democrats and Republicans, including veteran Democrats Christopher Dodd of Connecticut and Patrick Kennedy of Rhode Island.

The announcements have sprung up in rapid-fire fashion amid polls showing a rising anti-incumbent fervor and voter anger over Washington partisanship, high unemployment, federal deficits and lucrative banking industry bonuses.

Obama thanked Bayh for his years of public service.

"During that time, he has fought tirelessly for Indiana's working fami-

lies, reaching across the aisle on issues ranging from job creation and economic growth to fiscal responsibility and national security," Obama said in a written statement. "I look forward to continuing to work with him on these critical challenges throughout the rest of the year."

Bayh, who won the seat to the Senate in 1998, attributed his decision to the bitter partisan divides that have dominated Congress in recent years, though he praised his colleagues as hard workers devoting to serving the public.

"My decision should not be interpreted for more than it is, a very difficult, deeply personal one," he said.

GRC

continued from page 1

ents. In these three explanations, parents belittle their own accomplishments and respond with anxiety and disappointment to their children's mistakes. The child perceives this response as rejection, he said.

"Many psychologists contend that a normal perfectionism exists," Lapsley said. "However, large differences exist between this normal and neurotic perfectionism."

Several scales of perfectionism, developed by various psychologists, attest to these differences, he said.

Donley discussed her experiences with perfectionism in the Counseling Center.

"I see a difference between a goal-oriented person and a perfectionist," she said. "The goal-oriented individual studies hard for a test and is happy with the grade they receive, while the perfectionist crams and crams and is ultimately disappointed to learn that their friend received a higher score than they did."

Donley said many students base their self-esteem on what

they do or accomplish and, in turn, place a great deal of pressure on themselves.

Students need to realize that they can't do it all and learn to cut themselves a break somewhere, she said.

"In my mind, perfectionism sucks the joy right out of life," Donley said. "In the end it is our connection to other people and our quality of life that is the most important."

Byrnes focused on the value of meditation in coping with perfectionism and competition.

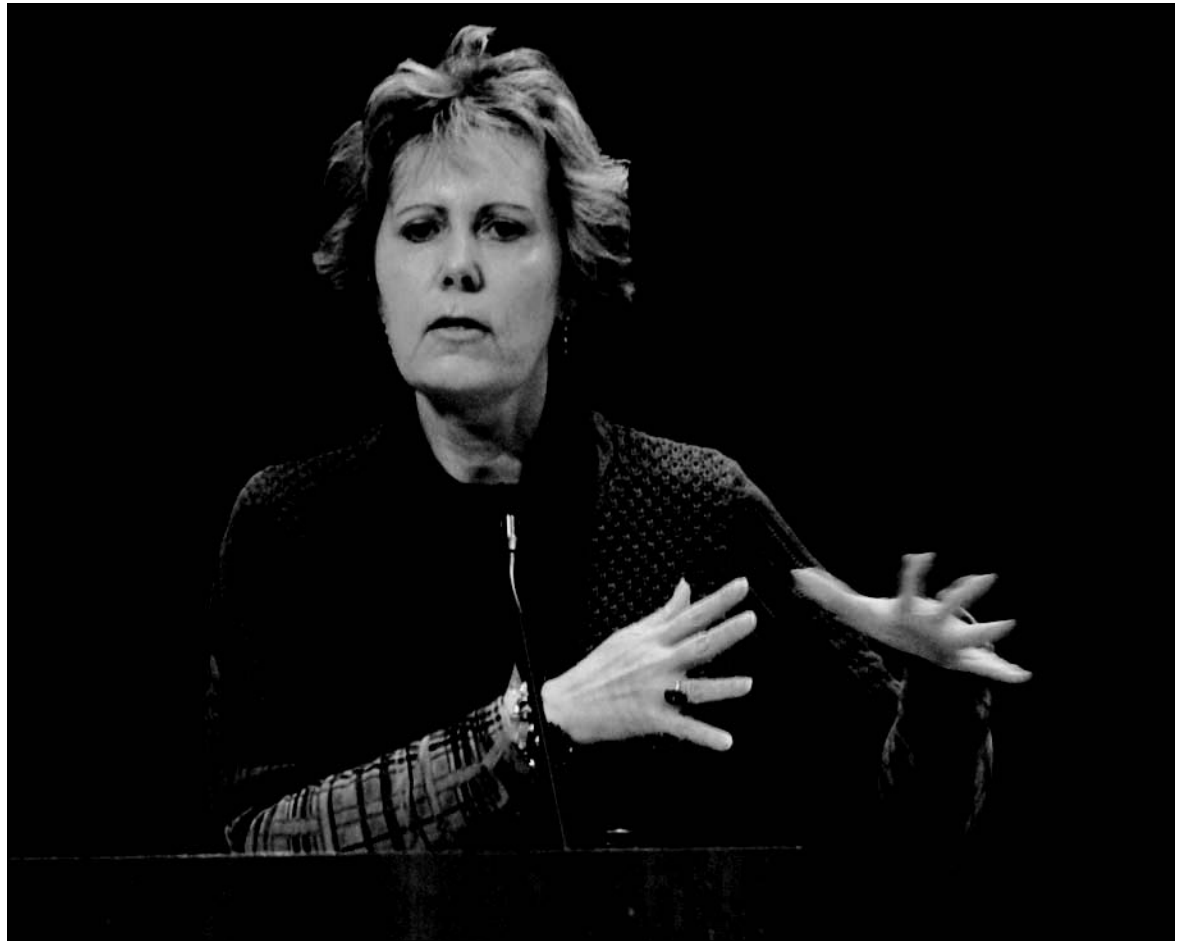
"Mindfulness is a potentially refreshing and restorative approach," she said. "It is the idea of being present in the moment."

According to Byrnes, more than 40 percent of Americans of all faiths practice meditation at least once a week.

She led a meditation exercise to demonstrate that virtually all forms of meditation require only four things: a quiet place, a stable posture, a non-thinking attitude and a focus on breathing.

"Meditation aids in recognizing the moment-to-moment reality," Byrnes said.

Contact Emily Schrank at eschrank@nd.edu



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Rita Donley, associate director of the University Counseling Center, discusses perfectionism at a lecture Monday in the Carey Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library.



Photo courtesy of Jeff Lakusta

Senior Nellie Cunningham poses in Stanford, South Africa, in the summer 2008 while doing service work with the Eyes on Africa Foundation. The Foundation is working with wineries to raise money for Haiti.

Wine

continued from page 1

Helps International, a non-profit organization that works in Latin American, Lakusta said.

"I felt drawn to the crisis in Haiti. Eyes on Africa has an incredible network of socially-conscious people who understand the power of getting involved — our trouble was coming up with a unique way to help," Lakusta said. "People only want to donate so much. Now, all we're asking is that people direct their purchases to a cause."

The funds will provide food, shelter and clean water to earthquake victims.

The wineries will continue donating proceeds through the end of April.

Indiana wineries donating a portion of the sales are Bacchus Imports, Cecchetti Wine Co., Lion Nathan USA, Precept Brands and Rainier Wine.

"Essentially, Eyes on Africa Helps Haiti allows people a new way to help this incredibly worthy cause," Lakusta said. "We've gotten some flak for branching out in response to the earthquake, but in the true spirit of Ubuntu, it only makes sense that we would respond to the crisis."

"Ubuntu," or the interconnectedness of humanity, is the core philosophy of Eyes on Africa.

Lakusta founded Eyes on

Africa in 2007 after a trip to South Africa. Lakusta and other college students have since used the organization as a springboard to develop and fund aid projects in needy areas of Africa.

"Eyes on Africa felt drawn to leverage its base of support in an effort to help those affected by the earthquake in Haiti," Lakusta said.

Eyes on Africa also recently won a \$25,000 grant from Chase Community Giving, a competition hosted on Facebook by JP Morgan Chase Bank. Eyes on Africa competed against more than 500,000 other charities to land in the top 100.

Contact Amanda Gray at agray3@nd.edu

Haiti

continued from page 1

to share information with students about how they can assist each organization in the effort to bring aid to Haiti after the recent earthquake.

Call said although only monetary aid is needed at this time, students can still get involved in the relief efforts.

"Students can become active by planning events or programs that raise money and awareness for Haiti," Call said. "Some students have been involved with Friends of the Orphans, and this group is doing excellent work in Haiti."

Call said the College has had several fundraisers to benefit the relief efforts. In January, a benefit concert was organized and held by members of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Friends of the Orphans group. Donations were accepted for entrance to the concert, and the funds raised benefited orphans in Haiti.

Additionally, Call said Saint Mary's has hosted several Masses where funds were gathered during the collection to benefit Haiti.

"It's important to keep providing relief to Haiti because they are in dire straits. They have the labor force to begin rebuilding, but they need resources," Call said. "We can provide those resources."

The Athletic Department at the College has also helped to collect funds for Haiti relief. A portion of money collected from concession and ticket sales was donated to the relief efforts.

Call said Friends of the Orphans has also set up a variety of collection jars around Saint Mary's campus to collect spare change for donation.

A panel discussion, which featured faculty members from both Notre Dame and Saint Mary's, was held today to highlight the history and culture of Haiti.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@nd.edu

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones **10,099.14** -45.05

Up: 1,911 Same: 150 Down: 1,833 Composite Volume: 1,077,644,005

AMEX	1,840.94	+7.03
NASDAQ	2,183.53	+6.63
NYSE	6,874.56	-24.16
S&P 500	1,075.51	-2.96
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	10,013.30	0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	5,167.47	+25.02

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
BERKSHIRE HATH HLD (BRK-B)	+0.27	+0.21	76.90
SPDR S&P 500 ETF TRS (SPY)	-0.08	-0.09	108.04
CITIGROUP INC (C)	-0.93	-0.03	3.18
BK OF AMERICA CP (BAC)	-1.23	-0.18	14.45

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	-1.07	-0.40	3.69
13-WEEK BILL	-5.26	-0.05	0.09
30-YEAR BOND	-0.47	-0.22	4.66
5-YEAR NOTE	-1.68	-0.40	2.33

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.04	74.09
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-4.50	1,090.20
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-0.75	86.00

Exchange Rates

YEN	90.0350
EURO	1.3599
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0493
BRITISH POUND	1.5668

IN BRIEF

PG&E pushes to amend constitution

SAN FRANCISCO — Pacific Gas & Electric Co. is funding a June ballot initiative that would amend California's constitution to make it much harder for cities and counties to offer residents another choice for buying their power.

The investor-owned utility, which has about 15 million customers in northern and central California, has already spent \$6.5 million on Proposition 16, according to state campaign records. The company is the sole source of the initiative's funding.

The initiative would require a two-thirds, or super-majority, vote before local governments could create a new form of public power called "community choice aggregation," or CCA. These public power entities, made possible by state legislation passed in 2002 after the state's energy crisis, allow cities or counties to buy energy on the wholesale market to sell to residents.

PG&E says a constitutional amendment is needed to protect taxpayers and ratepayers from possible losses incurred by inexperienced local governments entering the risky power wholesaling business.

Toyota may increase warranties

ORLANDO — Toyota Motor Corp. may offer incentives or increase the length of its warranties as it tries to recover from an embarrassing string of safety-related recalls.

The company has not decided exactly what it will do after it gets past the recalls, which include more than 8 million vehicles worldwide, for sticky gas pedals, floor mats that can snag the accelerator and a software glitch in the brakes of its Prius gas-electric hybrid, said Group Vice President Bob Carter.

Carter told reporters at the National Automobile Dealers Association Convention in Orlando, Fla., that it is focused on repairing customer cars and restoring their faith in the brand, which has had a reputation for bullet-proof reliability for years.

Toyota already is offering zero percent financing for 60 months in some of its regions, as well as cash to dealers to help sweeten deals, and Carter said the company may do an incentive campaign once it gets through the recalls.

Nursery industry hit by downturn

Landscaping and nursery businesses struggle after housing and economic decline

Associated Press

PORTLAND — Like his father, grandfather and great-grandfather, David Niklas feels the quickening of spring as the season ramps up at his wholesale nursery in a farming community south of Portland. Niklas and his workers busily package plants for shipment.

These days, his flowers and vegetable seedlings have fewer places to go, as the housing bubble burst and the state and national economies flatlined.

Just three years after reaching a record high of almost \$1 billion in sales, Oregon's nursery industry has plummeted into an historic slump. Nurseries are laying off employees, cutting costs and foregoing new buildings and equipment.

A few, like Niklas' Clackamas Greenhouses, have gone bankrupt.

"The family has poured money into it as we tried to restructure it and make new markets," said Niklas, who had to file bankruptcy after losing almost half his sales when his primary retailer was bought out. "Commercial lenders aren't talking to me because I'm coming out of bankruptcy."

"They aren't even talking to GM, so why would they talk to a little nursery?"

Across the country, the nursery and landscaping trades are also facing tough times.

"You have to eat, but you don't have to plant ornamentals," said Terry McElroy, a spokesman at the Florida Department of Agriculture.

Florida, which produces 80 percent of the house plants grown in the United States, had about \$844 million in sales of nursery stock in 2007 — the last year figures were available. California, the largest producer, reported \$1.6 billion in nursery stock sales in 2007.

Both states did not have



Fields of nursery stock are watered near Boring, Ore. Across the country, the nursery and landscaping trades took a direct hit when the economy flattened.

more recent figures, but officials said they had seen a decline in business. They expect the industry to slowly recover — but they also expect the belt-tightening will remain, with fewer purchases, less expansion and fewer employees.

"We know, just by tracking sales in general, that it's down but we don't know how down," said Jennifer Nelis, spokeswoman for the Florida Nursery Growers Association.

"It's the life cycle of home construction. Plants are some of the last to go in, so the industry is the last to bounce back."

"Things are starting to get a little better, but it will always lag."

In Oregon, the downturn was swift and stunning.

The rich soil and mild climate of Oregon's Willamette Valley is ideal for growing plants. And for 18 years, starting in 1990, the nursery industry steadily grew, reaching \$988 million in sales in 2007. The nursery commodity outpaced cattle, then ranked second, by as much as \$500 million that year.

Then the industry slammed into a swarm of trouble: the halt of home and business construction, high transportation costs, financial lending woes and a depressed national economy. Sales plunged 17 percent, to \$820 million, in 2008. State leaders expect a similar drop for 2009.

Back in the heady days, Niklas could count on \$4

million in annual sales at his nursery in Aurora. Bankruptcy knocked him down and, just as the nursery began to recover under Chapter 12 restructuring, the nation's economic downturn landed a sucker punch.

Niklas' annual sales plummeted to under \$2 million. He hasn't found a commercial lender to help him refinance. He and other nursery owners worry that two tax measures passed by Oregon voters earlier this year — raising the state income tax on upper income individuals, and hiking the corporate minimum tax and taxes on corporate net income greater than \$10 million — will push them closer to the financial edge.

SAUDI ARABIA

Saudis brace for peak in oil demand

Associated Press

JEDDAH — A top Saudi energy official expressed serious concern Monday that world oil demand could peak in the next decade and said his country was preparing for that eventuality by diversifying its economic base.

Mohammed al-Sabban, lead climate talks negotiator, said the country with the world's largest proven reserves of conventional crude is working to become the top exporter of energy, including alternative forms such as solar power.

Saudi Arabia was among the most vocal opponents of proposals during

the climate change talks in Copenhagen. And al-Sabban criticized what he described as efforts by developed nations to adopt policies biased against oil producers through the imposition of taxes on refined petroleum products while offering huge subsidies for coal — a key industry for the United States.

Al-Sabban said the potential that world oil demand had peaked, or would peak soon, was an "alarm that we need to take more seriously" as Saudi charts a course for greater economic diversification.

"We cannot stay put and say 'well, this is something that will happen anyway,'" al-Sabban said at the Jeddah

Economic Forum. The "world cannot wait for us before we are forced to adapt to the reality of lower and lower oil revenues," he added later.

Some experts have argued that demand for oil, the chief export for Saudi Arabia and the vast majority of other Gulf Arab nations, has already peaked. Others say consumption will plateau soon, particularly in developed nations that are pushing for greater reliance on renewable energy sources.

With oil demand only now starting to pick up after it was pummeled by the global recession, some analysts say consumers may have learned to live permanently with a lower level of consumption.

THE OBSERVER

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POST OFFICE INFORMATION

The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$120 for one academic year; \$65 for one semester.

The Observer is published at:
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame
and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER
Send address corrections to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779

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In memory of Ralph McNerny

Ralph McNerny, a member of the Notre Dame philosophy department since 1955, died on Jan. 29. Author of more than 40 scholarly books, Dr. McNerny was justly regarded as the preeminent exponent of the philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas. He also wrote poetry and more than 80 novels and mysteries.

The many testimonials by friends and colleagues, available online, recount Ralph's life and achievements. They give

a glimpse of his personal side. Ralph McNerny, a man of total integrity, was a kind and happy guy with a drily unique sense of humor, a master of the pun and a family man devoted over 49 years of marriage to Connie who was his match and whom he would occasionally introduce as "my first wife, Connie."

This column is neither an obituary nor a eulogy. Rather, the point is twofold. First, to note that Notre Dame students are now disadvantaged, whether they realize it or not, by their inability to study under Ralph McNerny and to know him in person. We will never see his like on this campus again.

The second point is to state the obvious. Ralph McNerny still lives — in Heaven (spelled with a capital H because it is a place) as we trust and pray — but also in his writings. Notre Dame students and others can still connect with his thought and wisdom. Reading McNerny on Aquinas has a practical payoff. The philosophy of Thomas Aquinas is called "realist" because it systematically affirms that there is a real world which we can know and understand through our senses and reason. The study of Aquinas is the study of how to integrate faith and reason, which, as John Paul II said, "are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth." ("Fides et Ratio," preamble.) To advance that integration was Ralph's mission. He accomplished it, without intimidating or boring the reader, because he wrote easily on two levels. He operated without peer in the highest reaches of Thomistic philosophy, drawing out its implications and significance. But he also had a rare facility, a gift, for writing with such clarity as to reach and inspire the rest of us. Those of us who are gratefully "content to retail," as Ralph put it ("I Alone Have Escaped to Tell You," 93), the teachings of Aquinas, had — and have — a lodestar in Ralph McNerny. If what we thought was consistent with Ralph's position,

we had a surety (not infallible, he would insist) that we were on the right track.

We all continue to need the guidance of Ralph McNerny. This is especially true for Notre Dame students. Through no fault of their own, they exist in an epistemological free-fire zone where the daily horoscope in The Observer predictably serves a large constituency. McNerny, instead, gave Notre Dame students and others a chance to connect with the real world, known to faith and reason, including the identification of objective right and wrong. Now that Ralph himself is gone, we can connect with those realities by reading his writings, especially on Aquinas. Out of many that could be chosen to provide an introduction to philosophy in general and to Aquinas in particular, I suggest five for openers. They are systematic, readable, and perhaps most important, short:

"A Student's Guide to Philosophy" (Intercollegiate Studies Institute, 1999, 75 pages). A good refresher for anyone. The beginner should read this first. Everyone "does philosophy" in that he thinks. McNerny introduces the reader to what passes for modern philosophy and its contrast with the perennial philosophy of Aristotle and Aquinas. He includes one-paragraph biographical inserts on 14 players in the philosophical game, from Socrates to Edith Stein. The reader will learn about the fact-value split between the is and the ought, scientific and pre-scientific analysis, and the essence of our post-Christian era. The book concludes with a remarkable bibliographical essay, "A Student's Guide to Philosophy," by Joshua Hochschild, describing dozens of books the reader can use to go more deeply into the subject.

"A First Glance at St. Thomas Aquinas: A Handbook for Peeping Thomists" (Univ. of Notre Dame Press, 1989, 208 pages). This primer explains Aristotle's common sense approach to philosophy, and Aquinas's use of those ideas to create a common sense foundation for theology. Realities such as form (what a thing is), matter (what a thing is made of), art and nature, causation, creation and the soul are introduced philosophically and theologically. This book easily explains one of McNerny's great contributions: his explanation of the role of analogy for St. Thomas. Incidentally, McNerny's mastery of the pun as a high art form is a use of analogy.

"Ethica Thomistica: The Moral Philosophy of Thomas Aquinas" (Catholic University of America Press, 1982, 129 pages). "This book attempts to lay out in its main lines the moral philosophy of St. Thomas Aquinas" (ix). McNerny explains the relation between the good and nature

in Aristotle and Aquinas. He shows the origin and application of the first principle of practical reason and the natural law: "The good is to be done and pursued and evil avoided" (43). He examines the structure of voluntary and other human acts, what makes an action good or evil, prudence, conscience and the relation between religion and morality. St. Thomas' "conception of man as a rational agent" (124) is countercultural today. Which is a good reason to read this book.

"Characters in Search of Their Author: The Gifford Lectures, Glasgow, 1999-2000" (Univ. of Notre Dame Press, 2001, 138 pages). "Natural theology," McNerny says, "means the philosophical discipline which proves that God exists and that he has certain attributes" (5).

McNerny's Gifford Lectures are presented here in two parts. The first, "Whatever Happened to Natural Theology?" examines the eclipse of the reality that reason can know God in a skeptical age that has lost the very concept of truth. Part two, "The Recovery of Natural Theology," examines the proofs for the existence and attributes of God. It addresses the reality that the fact that knowing that there is a God does not guarantee that one's conduct will be good. It discusses the different kinds of faith, including "the faith of scientists," (124), and the compatibility of reason and religious faith. In short, there is a "Christian philosophy" (129-32) and McNerny sees himself as a Christian philosopher. He explains how that can be.

"I Alone Have Escaped to Tell You: My Life and Pastimes" (Univ. of Notre Dame Press, 2006, 167). This autobiography tells us about many things, Ralph included. "I picked this book up during a spare hour," said Michael Novak, "and hours later have scarcely been able to get back to anything else." Each chapter includes a personal narrative set in a fast-moving cultural commentary on a lot of things, including universities, the academics who inhabit them, seminaries, the writing trade, Europe and its decline, Notre Dame, the Vatican, and so on. I have listed this book last, but you may want to read it first.

We can profit from any of McNerny's books, including his fiction, all of which is entertaining and has a Catholic tone. In any event, it's kind of nice to know that Ralph McNerny, in his writings, is still around for us as a mentor. Pray for him and, while you're at it, pray for Notre Dame. Requiescat in pace.

Professor Emeritus Rice is on the law school faculty. He may be reached at rice.1@nd.edu or 574-633-4415.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Love the earth. Recycle The Observer.

OBSERVER POLL

What is your favorite Winter Olympic event?

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Hockey
Snowboarding
Alpine skiing
Curling

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at
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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"You're supposed to trust friends. You have no reason to be his friend? That is part of the pleasure of friendship: trusting without absolute evidence and then being rewarded for that trust."

David Shore
writer

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Spooning for solutions

This letter is a response to Brendan Keeler's letter ("Cloudy with a chance of meatballs," Feb. 12). I really like North Dining Hall and its employees. You guys really do a great job providing us with such a wide selection of food everyday.

However, like Brendan Keeler, I am not happy about the placement of the spoons. Last year, the spoons were together with the forks and knives. All the utensils were right there. Since the beginning of this school year, though, the spoons were oddly separate. It confused the heck out of me, and nobody I talked to agreed with the move of the spoons. It just did not make sense to anybody, and it still doesn't.

Well, I tried to get to the bottom of this problem, so I talked to an NDH student employee. He told me the spoons were moved so less people would use them and NDH would save money on dishwashing. Apparently, a lot of people were taking spoons and not using them.

This makes a good deal of sense, but I still want the spoons to be back with the rest of the utensils, so why don't we find some common ground? Put the spoons back, but put a big poster over the utensils with a picture of a talking spoon that says, "Do you really need me?" and under that put a statistic about how many spoons go unused. People will see the sign and think to themselves either, "Yeah, I'll need a spoon to eat my cereal/soup/pudding," or "You know what? I really don't need a spoon today. Thanks, talking spoon!" That way, NDH doesn't have to spend more money washing unused spoons, and the rest of the student body doesn't end up with two forks and a knife. It's a win-win solution that really should happen.

Kevin Eller
sophomore
Stanford Hall
Feb. 15

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

Why we cannot, and will not, win the 'War on Terror'

In the climactic showdown of the film "V for Vendetta," the protagonist, V, is pitted against one of film's main villains. Verbal sparring ensues, and the bad guy, Mr. Creedy, notes that V, facing down a host of heavily armed men with only a set of knives and his "fancy karate gimmicks," has no chance of surviving the encounter. He ends with the smug proclamation "we have guns." V utters the first of two epic lines: "No, what you have are bullets, and the hope that when your guns are empty I'm no longer standing, because if I am, you'll all be dead before you've reloaded."

He ultimately survives the subsequent hail of gunfire, kills all the henchmen and then faces down the shocked villain. Unloading his weapon at V, Creedy exclaims "Die! Die! Why won't you die?" to which V, who always conceals his face behind a Guy Fawkes mask, replies, "Beneath this mask there is more than flesh. Beneath this mask there is an idea, Mr. Creedy, and ideas are bulletproof."

V kills Creedy, but staggers away from the encounter mortally wounded. He dies shortly thereafter, without ever seeing England free from tyranny. However, the chain of events he sets in motion is successful. The English rise up in revolution and succeed. Creedy's bullets killed V, but they didn't touch his ideas.

There are limits to the parallels between the movie and real life.

I am not arguing that the United States is a dystopian, tyrannical government, or the enemies that we face are somehow heroic figures. The analogy is far from perfect, but there is a lesson to be learned here. Fighting the "War on Terror" solely with bullets is a losing proposition. To be honest, fighting a war on terror, no matter what tactics you employ, is a hopeless exercise. Not because we aren't capable, but because terror is not something that can be fought.

Declaring "war" on random nouns is one of the most tired, ineffective techniques employed by American politicians. Terrorism is a tactic. So the "War on Terror" is shorthand for the real conflict we are fighting.

No, not the wars in Iraq or Afghanistan, though they are certainly related (which you might call the war on al-Qaida or violent Jihadists or Islamofacism or whatever term you prefer). It is a violent struggle against a group of people who are actively trying to harm the U.S. and whose favorite weapon is, you guessed it, terrorism.

This gives us the "who" we are fighting and, to some degree, answers the related

questions of when and where, but fails to answer the most important question that can be asked about any armed conflict — why?

That answer is not particularly difficult or controversial: We're fighting to keep America safe. But when we reach this point, we must ask ourselves: What does victory look like, and how do we get there? If the goal is safety, what does that actually mean, and then what strategy do we implement, which tactics do we employ?

Killing terrorists is useful, perhaps even essential to achieving our goal. But unless we kill every single terrorist, we will never be completely, 100 percent safe. Assuming this were possible (which it is most certainly not), we wind up facing the same problem faced by Mr. Creedy. We can kill all our enemies, but they live on in the form of their ideas and ideology.

As a functioning organization, al-Qaida is a mere shadow of the powerful group that blew up embassies in Africa, the U.S.S. Cole in Yemen, and World Trade Center and Pentagon on Sept. 11. We've decapitated its leadership, killed hundreds (perhaps even thousands) of its operatives and driven Osama bin Laden into perpetual hiding and virtual impotence. But as a brand name, as source of inspiration and a call to arms, al-Qaida lives on in the hearts and minds of many disaffected fanatics angry at the U.S.

Unless one believes systematic genocide of Islamic people is a viable option, then there is a limit to what can be accomplished through force of arms. The short answer, as this column's headline states, is the current "War on Terror" cannot be won. We will never be completely safe — not from terrorism nor from any number of other threats we face.

That doesn't mean we should give up or resign ourselves to the inevitability of another Sept. 11.

We can strive to move as close to our goal as possible by taking reasonable security precautions, attempting to discredit and reduce the appeal of al-Qaida's ideology, and yes, by eliminating terrorists and disrupting their operations. But we must always remember, no matter how hard we try, we cannot completely eliminate the threat.

Coming to terms with this fact will prevent us from taking steps (such as trading tyranny for security), that might make the parallels to "V for Vendetta" all too real.

This column first ran in the Jan. 28 edition of The Daily Athenaeum, the daily newspaper serving West Virginia University.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Conference's courageous dialogue

I would like to second Ms. Healy's applause ("Truth, Identity, and Edith Stein," Feb. 15) for the organizers of the Edith Stein Conference that occurred this past weekend. This conference for the past five years has attempted to bring Catholic teaching to bear on some of the most pressing cultural issues that college men and women are experiencing here on campus. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to attend the session that was headlined by Melinda Selmys. Walking away from that session, I could not help but conclude that Ms. Healy's main concern was met by this session: dialogue between the Catholic position and those who came in protest truly did take place.

Ms. Healy mischaracterizes the Conference's treatment of those who protested the session. While Notre Dame Security Police was called to the scene, Ms. Healy failed to mention some important facts. Those who protested decided to stand inside the lobby of McKenna Hall. Unannounced and unexpected, the protestors handed out leaflets to all who entered the building. The leaflets spelled out the protestors' concern with Ms. Selmys speaking at the conference. All those in attendance at the conference either peacefully accepted the leaflets or respectfully declined without incident. Neither of the above actions taken by the protestors was objectionable in the least. The protestors then decided to recite selections of "queer poetry." These selections were acerbic, vulgar, crude and vitriolic. The protestors were not initially interested in engaging in rational "dialogue" with those in attendance. Instead, the protestors resorted to profanity-laced lyrics that, to my best estimation, were aimed merely at attacking the sensibilities of those in attendance — including young children — and attempting to disrupt the conference.

While Ms. Healy's letter leaves the reader with the impression that the protestors were disbanded by NDSP or otherwise "taken away," the Conference organizers and attendees opened their doors and invited all the protestors into the session. Most, if not all, of the protestors entered the Main Auditorium of McKenna Hall and respectfully listened to Ms. Selmys and the rest of the panel that was speaking at the session. Of particular note, Ms. Selmys began her talk by respectfully addressing each sentence contained in the protestors' leaflet. One of the main features — if not the main feature — of Ms. Selmys' presentation was a challenge to Catholics. During the question and answer period, the protestors who had been invited into the session by the Conference organizers posed each question. After the session concluded, Ms. Selmys continued in conversation with some of the protestors.

While Ms. Healy might not have selected Ms. Selmys to speak at the conference, Ms. Healy's glaring omission of key facts misguides the readers of The Observer. The organizers of the Edith Stein Conference, Ms. Selmys, and the rest of the panel should be applauded for their courage in putting on this panel discussion that was open for all to attend, honest and challenging for all in attendance. Those who protested should be applauded for accepting the Conference organizers' invitation to attend the session. The protestors should also be applauded for engaging in this conversation in the spirit of good faith and respect once the protestors entered into the auditorium.

If what is described above is not an instance of "courageous dialogue," I do not know what would be.

Philip Lashutka
law student
off campus
Feb. 15

Reinstate spoons

Hats off to Mr. Brendan Keeler for his chilling expose of the glaring inadequacies that plague North Dining Hall ("Cloudy with a chance of meatballs," Feb. 12). Most pressing to both me and the majority of the University is the unnecessary and punitive segregation of spoons from the general utensil population.

Mr. Keeler argues that "this sort of segregation is something we cannot stand for at the University," and I applaud his crystal clear understanding of justice. Legal precedent exists for his flawless argument. Must I remind North Dining Hall that separate but equal is inherently unequal, as determined unanimously by the Warren Court? The spoon is a majestic utensil, unparalleled in its ability to deliver satisfaction during the consumption of steamed vegetables and cereal alike. Give those fine utensils the location and respect they deserve.

James Kachadoorian
sophomore
Siegfried Hall
Feb. 15

SCENE'S TOP VIDEO PICKS



Apolo Ohno takes 100 meter gold



Ohno outmaneuvers Seung-Hoon Lee of Korea in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Shaun White - amazing snowboarding



A perfect example of style.

Vonn first slalom win



Vonn takes first by 0.40 seconds.

1980 USA Hockey Team



A miracle on ice.



By ADRIANA PRATT
Assistant Scene Editor

Oh the weather outside is frightful, but the fashion magazines are so delightful! Since we've no place to go, open them up and get the spring style down low! Spring is right around the corner — or maybe the block — but regardless, it's time to start planning because, as my roommate likes to say, "prior preparation prevents poor performance," and there is no room for error this season!

Four essentials are a must for stocking your closet this spring: flowers, zippers, trenches and wedges. These items are key for the ladies who want to blossom like those gorgeous tulips lining the Grotto in April.

This year, floral doesn't necessarily have to mean literal flower details. Marchesa shows this best with her blooming textured tops and gowns, which bring the princess version of every woman's grungy Cinderella to light with every twist and turn of fabric. Marchesa's tucks and folds of silk and wool in deep hues will have you panting for the spring rains if they mean that sunshine and Marchesa's designs are on their way.

Floral accents in and of themselves will also brighten any outfit. Try extravagant headbands, necklaces or full patterns on sweeping dresses for a soft feminine look. When going for a floral look on a full-length dress, stick to pastels and save the bright jewel tones for a solid piece to avoid being too over-the-top. Forever 21 is stocked with pieces in each genre to bring this vision to life.

The fall gave birth to the zipper, winter saw its teen years, and come spring, the zipper will finally reach adulthood. It's a fantastic statement maker, especially when strategically placed, and will give an edge to even the softest of outfits. For a touch of irony, pair a motorcycle jacket with a

floral blouse, skinny jeans and heels and watch men become even more confused and entranced by the creature that is woman.

Zippers don't just have to stay on clothes. Heels, rings and even sunglasses — check out Alexander Wang for Linda Farrow Zipper Sunglasses — will feature these details in spring 2010 so make sure you're on your game when you hit the streets.

Four essentials are a must for stocking your closet this spring: flowers, zippers, trenches and wedges.

Bright-colored trench coats screamed spring last year, but this year it's all about muted tones in nudes, blacks and whites. These jackets will look great with a classy pair of rain boots, so make sure to invest in one for both practical and fashionable reasons. Once

the snow melts and the ladies emerge from their cave-like dorms this year, expect to see campus awash with Audrey Hepburn look-a-likes.

No matter which way you slice it, wedges are in this spring. The staple, chunky espadrilles, will be parading down South Quad once the sun comes out, but they won't be marching alone. Expect to see new additions of saddle leather and black suede to the mix for an exceptionally bold taste of the wide variety soon to adorn female feet.



Photo Credit <http://www.sodabottle.com>

Tall wedges are just one example of the high style that will hit campus this spring.

For the in-between stage of winter and spring, feel free to match a pair of chunky neutral-tone socks with thick-heeled sandals. InStyle suggests sticking to thin fabrics with dainty patterns to avoid overdoing the look.

Brighten those obnoxiously gray skies hanging over campus by exploring the upcoming trends. There's only 17 days left until Spring Break (but who's counting) so utilize your shopping time wisely. Treat yourself to a little ring this spring and you won't regret it!

Contact Adriana Pratt at apratt@nd.edu

"Valentine's Day" Part Sweet, Part Sour

By CAITLIN FERRARO
Assistant Scene Editor

It's no "Love Actually," but director Gary Marshall's "Valentine's Day" is a heartwarming film with multiple, interconnected stories about love. A star-studded cast comes together to portray Los Angelinos trying to navigate love. But just like any box of assorted chocolates there are a few bad ones in the bunch.

Ashton Kutcher and Jennifer Garner are absolutely fantastic as the arguable leads of the film, and on-screen best friends. Kutcher's Reed is a hopeless romantic and florist who proposes to his workaholic girlfriend Morley, (Jessica Alba) but things are not as picture perfect as he thinks.

Meanwhile, Garner plays Julia, a lovable teacher who is head over heels for her heart surgeon boyfriend Dr. Harrison Copeland played by Patrick Dempsey. Unfortunately, this doc is no McDreamy, and drama and humor ensue. Kutcher and Garner are charming and endearing. They are the best parts of this film, and deservedly spend the most time on screen.

Supporting actors that shine are the always lovely Anne Hathaway and the goofy but adorable Topher Grace as a couple struggling with their new relationship. Hathaway is hysterical as an adult phone entertainer.

Meanwhile, Bradley Cooper holds his own with romantic comedy queen Julia Roberts as two passengers on a long plane ride. It is refreshing to have Roberts back in the rom-com sphere, but sadly she is only on the screen for all of six minutes. The pair are natural together, and it is nice to see Cooper play a good guy for once.

But with the good comes the bad. In the case of the Taylor Lautner-Taylor Swift duo, the very, very bad. Lautner doesn't do much. He mostly stands there, next to an hyperactive Swift. He doesn't even do what he did best in "New Moon," which is to take off his shirt, because his character is too shy. Fail. And Swift should absolutely stick to singing. An accomplished young actress would be able to pull off her self-absorbed, immature homecoming queen character. However, she is simply annoying. If we had less of the Taylors and more of the better teen actors like Emma Roberts and Carter Jenkins who are considering having sex for the first time, the film would have benefited. Their relationship has considerably more substance but we do not get the chance to see enough of them because of the large cast.

The bottom line is that there are simply too many characters in "Valentine's Day" that certain storylines felt rushed while others were simply unnecessary. If you just had a little bit more information here or there things might have made a bit more sense, and the pacing would seem more even. But there are surprising twists and turns along the way that help to keep the viewers

interested.

If you're looking for the magic of "Love Actually" look elsewhere. The comparison is unavoidable, but perhaps Christmas is more romantic than Valentine's Day or everything is sexier with a British accent, but "Love Actually" is leagues above this film.

But that is not to say this film is without merit.

A huge benefit to the large cast is that viewers have a greater opportunity to relate to a particular storyline or character. George Lopez provides comic relief as Kutcher's employee and friend. Eric Dane is intriguing as an aging quarterback with a secret. And Jamie Foxx is funny as a sports reporter forced to do puff pieces on Valentine's Day. He hates Valentine's Day almost as much as his sports publicist contact, the neurotic Kara (Jessica Biel) who organizes an "I hate Valentine's Day" party every year. She worries that no one will show up, but as smart viewers we know that there will probably be a few broken hearts that arrive late.

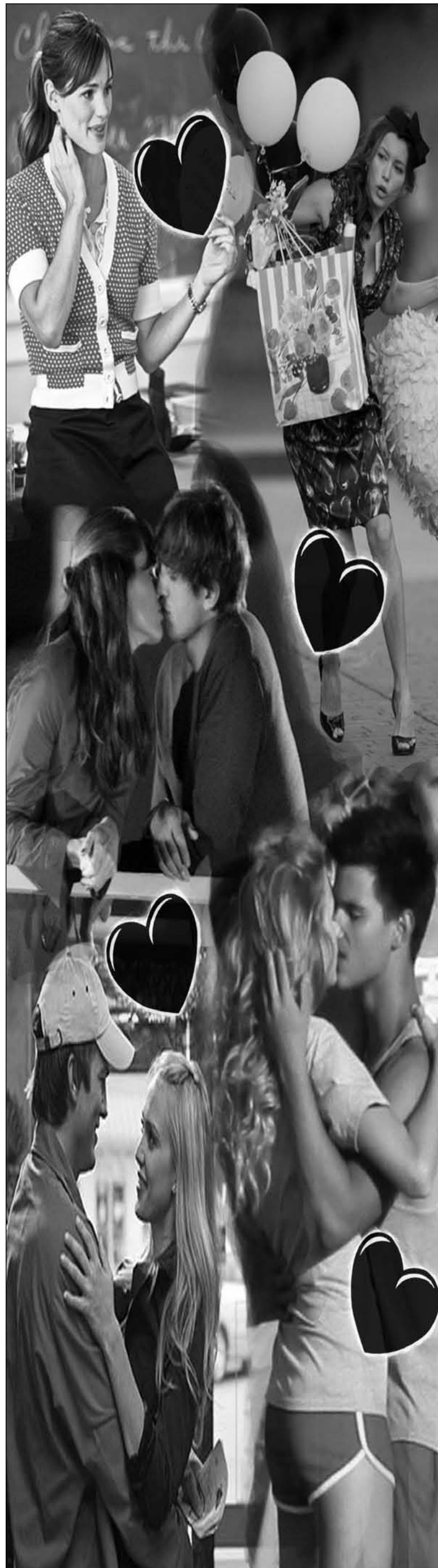
Romantic comedies rarely showcase love of all ages, but this film gets the opportunity. Bryce Robinson is adorable as Edison, the lovesick fifth grader determined on delivering flowers to his crush. And Shirley MacLaine and Hector Elizondo demonstrate that love is timeless as an old married couple. The accomplished actors bring a refreshing sensitivity to the film.

Sure, the film is predictable at times, but any viewer should expect that heading into the theater given the title and trailer alone. What they might not expect is the surprisingly well-done job of portraying the varying emotions that one might feel when February 14th rolls around. Love, lust, bitterness, joy, regret and deceit are all on the menu. The characters range from those who are deeply in love, to those who think they are in love, to lying cheaters who never deserved any love. But that's the beauty of this mosaic of different stories. There is something for everyone to enjoy, even if it just to see Swift be ridiculous.

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'Valentine's Day'

Directed by: Gary Marshall
Starring: Ashton Kutcher, Jennifer Garner, Anne Hathaway, Topher Grace, Jessica Biel, Jamie Foxx, Taylor Swift, Taylor Lautner



NBA

Slumping Mavericks shuffle roster with trade

Associated Press

DALLAS — The Dallas Mavericks would like to host another big-time NBA event this season. So they made some changes.

With the record-breaking All-Star weekend in their backyard over, the Southwest Division-leading Mavericks will begin the final 30-game stretch of the regular season Tuesday night looking much different than they did when losing five of seven games before the break.

A seven-player weekend trade brought two-time All-Star guard Caron Butler, 7-foot center Brendan Haywood and guard DeShawn Stevenson to Dallas from Washington. Often promising and disappointing Josh Howard was sent with Drew Gooden and two others to the Wizards.

“Now I don’t know how many of you out there are going to pick us in a seven-game series against the Lakers, but in our opinion the guys in that locker room, we’re ready to lock

horns with anybody,” Mavericks president of basketball operations Donnie Nelson said. “We feel like this solidifies us a little bit.”

Enough to think about the possibility of playing Los Angeles in a Western Conference final? Or getting back to the NBA Finals four years after blowing a two-game lead and losing in six games to Miami?

“We’ll find out,” owner Mark Cuban said. “You just never know until you get out there and play, and if we can get back to where we were early in the season and get healthy. ... I think we’re better.”

The Mavericks (32-20) still lead their division despite a slump before the break that included a 36-point loss to Denver, one of the three teams ahead of them in the West, in their last game.

“We were struggling here for a month, so we are excited now to have some new guys,” All-Star forward Dirk Nowitzki said. “It’s not going to be an easy ride, but we are looking

forward to coming together quick and hopefully finish the season strong.”

The Mavericks will have to assimilate the newcomers without a practice. The three could only watch Monday’s workout because of a paperwork delay, coach Rick Carlisle said. Assuming the all-clear comes Tuesday morning, the former Wizards will go through a shootaround and then straight into their first game with Dallas at Oklahoma City.

An opening stretch of four games in five nights against probable playoff teams continues Wednesday night at home against Phoenix. After a day off, another back-to-back set comes at Orlando and home against Miami.

“It’s a situation that’s not ideal, but we’re going to make it work,” Carlisle said. “These guys will adjust.”

Butler, who has averaged 16.9 points a game in his eighth NBA season, is expected to move into the Mavericks’ starting lineup. Jason Terry, who last year got the NBA

sixth man award as the league’s top reserve, is expected to move back into that role after starting the past 11 games.

Terry said he could accept going back to the bench, and Butler said that “meant a lot.”

“Me and (Terry), we are familiar with one another,” Butler said. “He’s always been like a big brother to me. He’s just making the transition real smooth for me.”

Kobe Bryant of the Lakers, who because of a sore left ankle didn’t play in the All-Star game before the record crowd of 108,713 at Cowboys Stadium on Sunday night, said Butler will be a good addition for Dallas. They were teammates with the Lakers in 2004-05.

“You put him on a contender and I’m telling you, you’re going to love him,” Bryant said. “He’s tough as nails.”

Haywood provides needed depth in the middle behind Erick Dampier, who missed three of four games before the break. That forced Gooden, now headed to his eighth team

in eight seasons, to fill that role much more than planned when Dallas signed him last summer.

“We were running into problems. Dampier is having problems with his knees and requires rest every now and then, and we really were in a spot without having a shot-blocker behind him,” Cuban said. “Drew did a great job, he laid it out there every game for us to try to go in as a five. Going into the season, we thought that would work, and it just didn’t play out as planned.”

The Mavericks also envision using Dampier and Haywood together to match up against other teams using two big men.

Howard had spent his entire career with Dallas, playing 431 games since being the 29th overall pick in 2003. The team’s second-longest tenured player behind Nowitzki, Howard played only 31 games with nine starts this season after being limited the first couple of months while recovering from offseason surgery on his left ankle.

NCAA MEN’S BASKETBALL

Izzo trying to steady the ship as No. 11 Sparty struggles

Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Tom Izzo can get as emotional as any coach in the country, but he pretty much kept his cool while Michigan State struggled through a recent three-game losing streak.

A quick check of the Big Ten standings shows there’s not much reason to fret: the No. 11 Spartans remain tied for first place after snapping their skid with a victory at Penn State over the weekend. And Izzo says there are signs things could come together in time for another Michigan State run when the NCAA tournament rolls around in March.

“I think we’re headed in the right direction, I really do,” Izzo said Monday. “It hasn’t been the smoothest plane ride or the calmest waters. But sometimes those are good things. They bring you together and they get everybody on the same page sooner or later. And that’s the ultimate goal.”

Michigan State (20-6, 10-3 Big Ten) is tied on top of the conference with No. 9 Ohio State entering this week. No. 4 Purdue, No. 14 Wisconsin and unranked Illinois also are in

the Big Ten title chase.

Izzo — in his 15th year as a head coach — expects to run into trouble somewhere during a long, grueling season. Even when the Spartans were on their way to a school record 9-0 start to Big Ten play, Izzo said he wouldn’t be surprised if the eventual conference champ finishes with five league losses.

Michigan State plays at Indiana (9-15, 3-9) on Tuesday, the end of an eight-game stretch that included six road games. The Spartans lost consecutive games at Wisconsin and Illinois and at home to Purdue during that stretch — none of which Izzo considers a “bad” loss, particularly given the health of Kalin Lucas, his jet-quick point guard.

Lucas injured an ankle

against the Badgers and didn’t play against Illinois. But he returned to the starting lineup and scored 24 points in Saturday’s 65-54 victory at Penn State.

Defense was a problem during Michigan State’s slide. But the Spartan defense was top-notch while holding Penn State without a field goal for more than six minutes during a decisive second-half stretch.

“We lost three games and we just had to bounce back,” Lucas said after the Penn State victory. “We just have to keep playing and keep defending.”

Izzo works hard to keep his team from getting complacent when times are good and to keep perspective when its struggling.

After a 13-point victory over Toledo in November, Izzo com-

“It hasn’t been the smoothest plane ride or the calmest waters. But sometimes those are good things. They bring you together and they get everybody on the same page sooner or later. And that’s the ultimate goal.”

Tom Izzo
Michigan State coach

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

FOR RENT

gradrentals.viewwork.com

2 apartments available near downtown SB 129 N. St. Louis Blvd (between Jefferson St. & Colfax St.) Both apartments 1000 SF no deposit required \$350.00 per person per month includes utilities upstairs apartment 2/3 bedroom kitchen bath and livingroom \$375.00 per month per person includes

utilities downstairs apartment 2 bedroom kitchen bath livingroom diningroom and laundry room. References and lease required. Please call 574-274-2110.

PERSONAL

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, we can help. For more information, visit Notre Dame’s website: <http://csap.nd.edu>

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. Notre Dame has many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-7819 or Ann Firth at 1-2685. For more information, visit ND’s web site: <http://pregnancysupport.nd.edu>

Thirsty and languorous after their long black sleep
The old gods crooned and shuffled and shook their heads.
Dry, dry. By railroad they set out

Across the desert of stars to drink the world
Our mouths had soaked
In the strange sentences we made
While they were asleep: a pollen-tinted
Slurry of passion and lapsed
Intention, whose imagined
Taste made the savage deities hiss and snort.

In the lightless carriages, a smell of snake
And coarse fur, glands of lymphless
breath

And ichor, the avid stench of Immortal bodies.

Their long train clicked and sighed
Through the gulfs of night between the planets
And came down through the evening fog
Of redwood canyons. From the train
At sunset, fiery warehouse windows
Along a wharf. Then dusk, a gash of neon:
Bar. Black pinewoods, a junction
crossing, glimpses

Of sluggish surf among the rocks, a moan
Of dreamy forgotten divinity calling and fading
Against the windows of a town.
Inside
The train, a flash
Of dragonfly wings, an antlered brow.

Black night again, and then
After the bridge, a palace on the water.

AROUND THE NATION

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Tuesday, February 16, 2010

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NCAA Division I Men's Basketball AP Rankings

team	previous
1 Kansas	1
2 Kentucky	3
3 Villanova	4
4 Purdue	6
5 Syracuse	2
6 Duke	8
7 Kansas State	9
8 West Virginia	5
9 Ohio State	13
10 Georgetown	7
11 Michigan State	10
12 New Mexico	15
13 Gonzaga	16
14 Wisconsin	11
15 Texas	14
16 BYU	17
17 Vanderbilt	22
18 Butler	18
19 Pittsburgh	25
20 Tennessee	12
21 Temple	21
22 Baylor	24
23 Wake Forest	NR
24 Texas A&M	NR
25 Richmond	NR

NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Coaches' Poll

team	previous
1 Kansas	1
2 Kentucky	2
3 Villanova	5
4 Purdue	6
5 Syracuse	3
6 Duke	7
7 Kansas State	9
8 West Virginia	4
9 Gonzaga	11
10 Georgetown	8
11 Michigan State	10
12 Ohio State	16
13 Butler	15
14 BYU	17
15 New Mexico	19
16 Wisconsin	13
17 Texas	14
18 Tennessee	12
19 Vanderbilt	24
20 Temple	21
21 Pittsburgh	23
22 Baylor	NR
23 Texas A&M	NR
24 Northern Iowa	18
25 Wake Forest	NR

NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Rankings

team	prev
1 Connecticut	1
2 Stanford	2
3 Nebraska	3
4 NOTRE DAME	4
5 Tennessee	5
6 Xavier	6
7 Ohio State	7
8 Duke	8
9 West Virginia	9
10 Florida State	10

NBA



Cavaliers guard LeBron James celebrates with Heat guard Dwyane Wade following the All Star Game in Dallas. Wade scored 28 points for the Eastern Conference to win the All Star MVP Award for the first time since 2006.

LeBron, Eastern Conference defeat West 141-139

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — The largest crowd ever to watch a basketball game roared from all corners of Cowboys Stadium, and the two superstars on the court smiled widely.

Nope, not Dwyane Wade and LeBron James.

Try Jerry Jones and Mark Cuban.

They partnered to create a basketball spectacle that had never been seen before, one that ended with the Eastern Conference's 141-139 victory over the West on Sunday night in the All-Star game.

"It's an historical event," Wade said. "It's going to be in our minds and our

hearts and thoughts for a long time. Dallas and the MVP. Jerry Jones and Mark Cuban really put on a fabulous event."

The crowd of 108,713, packed with the usual celebrities the NBA All-Star game always attracts, watched Dallas native Chris Bosh make the winning free throws with 5 seconds left. The West had a chance to win it, but Carmelo Anthony's 3-point attempt came up short.

"To be in front of 108,000 fans, that was actually what it was, that was not a false number. You could look up in the stands, and there was not a seat open," James said. "To be part of history is something that

you always wish and dream for."

The largest cheer of the night came after the third quarter, when Mavericks owner Cuban and Cowboys owner Jones came onto the court to announce the record basketball crowd, which was also the largest in the \$1.2 billion building's short history.

Wade had 28 points and won MVP honors, just as he did after leading Miami to victory in the 2006 NBA finals in nearby Dallas. He added 11 assists, six rebounds and five steals.

"To be able to perform in front of a crowd like that, I know that. I know I can do it, I've done it before," Wade said. "So just to be

able to put on a show like that and to get the win, and to make key plays down the stretch was what I like.

"I've had a little luck in Dallas. Of course, 2006 is very, very memorable, something I dreamed of doing for a long time, winning the NBA championship and I was lucky enough and blessed enough to win the MVP there," Wade said. "To come and do it again is special."

James had 25 points, and Bosh had 23 points and 10 rebounds. Anthony scored 27 points, and Dirk Nowitzki — who Kobe Bryant had predicted would win MVP honors — had 22.

IN BRIEF

Getzlaf leads Ducks to win over Edmonton

EDMONTON, Alberta — Ryan Getzlaf made a strong case to keep his spot with Team Canada, scoring twice and adding two assists in his first game back from a sprained left ankle to help the Anaheim Ducks beat Edmonton 7-3 on Sunday.

Saku Koivu, Corey Perry, Scott Niedermayer, George Parros and Bobby Ryan also scored for Anaheim, which trails Calgary by two points for the final playoff spot in the Western Conference as the NHL heads into the Olympic break.

Ryan Potulny, Ethan Moreau and Lubomir Visnovsky scored for the NHL-worst Oilers.

Getzlaf banged a rebound past Jeff Deslauriers off a scramble on a power play at 5:27 of the third period, then added another with the man advantage off a pass from Niedermayer with 3:02 left.

Monahan to miss spring training with Yankees

NEW YORK — The Yankees will be without a familiar face when the defending World Series champions begin trickling into Florida for spring training this week.

The team announced Sunday that longtime head trainer Gene Monahan is taking a medical leave of absence to deal with "a significant illness" that could keep him out through the start of the regular season. The nature of his illness was not disclosed.

The 65-year-old Monahan hasn't missed spring training in 48 years, including the past 38 as the trainer in charge of the storied Yankees franchise. He's the longest-tenured active head trainer in the major leagues, a mantle he assumed when Dave Pursley retired from the Atlanta Braves after the 2002 season.

Monahan began his athletic-training career in 1963.

Marlins, Ross unable to avoid salary arbitration

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Florida Marlins outfielder Cody Ross has gone to salary arbitration, asking for \$4.45 million rather than the team's offer of \$4.2 million.

Arbitrators James Oldham, Margaret Brogan and Howard Edelman are expected to issue a decision Tuesday, a day after hearing arguments.

Ross hit .290 with 24 homers and 90 RBIs last season, when he made \$2.3 million.

Players and owners have split the two decisions this far, with Milwaukee outfielder Corey Hart winning (\$4.8 million) and Tampa Bay outfielder B.J. Upton losing (\$3 million).

Three hearings equals the record-tying low total of cases that went to arbitrators last year, when Florida's Dan Uggla and Washington's Shawn Hill won and Tampa Bay's Dioner Navarro lost.

around the dial

NCAA Men's Basketball
Michigan State at Indiana
7 p.m., ESPN

NBA Basketball
Knicks at Bulls
8 p.m., WGN

OLYMPICS

Defago ends Swiss medal drought with gold

Associated Press

WHISTLER, British Columbia — Didier Defago broke a two-decade Swiss drought with gold in the Olympic downhill Monday and American Bode Miller broke his personal streak of major championship failures by taking the bronze.

Defago sped down the Dave Murray course in 1 minute, 54.31 seconds to match countryman Pirmin Zurbriggen's feat in the downhill at the 1988 Calgary Games — the last time a Swiss man had won an Olympic gold in any Alpine event.

Married with two young children whom he often brings along to races, Defago had never won a medal at an Olympics or world championship. His lone World Cup victory came in a super-G in Val Gardena, Italy, way back in 2002 before he won the two most prestigious downhills of the World Cup season on back-to-back weekends last year in Wengen, Switzerland, and Kitzbuehel, Austria.

"The conditions were perfect for me," Defago said. "I knew I would do well, but I never expected to do this well. I had a great year with Wengen and Kitzbuehel. A medal had to come eventually for me."

While teammate and pre-race favorite Didier Cuche was still to ski, Defago was already aware he had laid down a special run and nearly fell over backward into the padding lining the finish area as he celebrated with both arms in the air.

"He just nailed it right there. He didn't have an easy year because of the other guys who were taking the glory all the time," said Marco Buechel, the Liechtenstein skier who trains with the Swiss team. "Everybody on our team is really happy for him."

Defending overall World Cup champion Aksel Lund Svindal of Norway took silver, a slim 0.07 seconds behind, and Miller was only 0.09 behind Defago.

"It was a huge relief to exe-

cute and ski well," Miller said. "Obviously it would've been great to be a little faster. I was psyched. I skied hard."

Having won two silvers at the 2002 Salt Lake City Games, Miller becomes the first American to win three medals in Alpine skiing at the Olympics. Phil Mahre, Tommy Moe, Picabo Street and Diann Roffe each won two medals.

Miller's medal is also the first for the U.S. in the men's downhill at the Olympics since Moe took a surprise gold at the 1994 Lillehammer Games.

At 32 years and 4 months, Defago became the oldest man to win the Olympic downhill, three months older than Frenchman Jean-Luc Cretier when he won at the 1998 Nagano Games.

Mario Scheiber of Austria finished fourth, local favorite Erik Guay of Canada placed fifth and Cuche was sixth.

Cuche, who leads the World Cup downhill standings and was skiing with a broken right thumb, was only 0.06 behind Defago through the final checkpoint, with the crowd turning silent at how tight it was, but Cuche inexplicably lost three-tenths through the final turns.

"It was really close and I can't really understand why I was slow on the finish part," Cuche said. "Normally, I'm a good finisher. But when I saw the crowd really quiet down here, I knew that was not like I wanted. I'm going to enjoy the night with Didier. He deserved it and it's good for the Swiss nation."

In addition to his performance in Salt Lake City in 2002, Miller won a full load of world championship medals before he went bust in Turin four years ago, making more headlines for his late-night partying than his skiing.

Miller also failed to win a medal at the 2007 and 2009 world championships and considered retiring over the summer before the Olympics lured him back for a shot at redeeming himself.

Miller was the eighth starter

and set the pace for the other race favorites, who started between 16th and 22nd. He said the course was darker when he skied than for the other favorites later on.

"That's what ski racing is about," he said. "It's always a mix. There definitely was light changing in the very beginning. It got progressively better, but definitely when I went the middle part was dark. That's where Aksel pulled eight-tenths back on me. That's the way ski racing goes. But I was happy with the way I skied."

Miller started his run a little earlier than planned because the previous skier, Andrej Sporn of Slovenia, missed a gate early on.

Rocking back and forth as a team member psyched him up with screams and yells in the starting house, Miller began his run solidly, tucking at every opportunity on the upper gliding sections.

Miller was nearly a full second — 0.97 — faster than the previous leader, David Poisson of France, at the second checkpoint.

Always one of the most exciting skiers to watch, Miller flailed his arms out to maintain his balance on the turns and jumps, drawing "oohs" and "ahs" from the crowd, and pulled himself back into his aerodynamic tuck for the straightaways.

Perhaps still not 100 percent physically after skipping summer training while he debated his future, Miller lost nearly half a second on the bottom of the course, and appeared on the verge of exhaustion as he had a bit of a tough time landing the final jump leading into the finish line.

In the finish area, Miller's mouth curled up into a smile as he pumped his head on his fists in satisfaction or — perhaps more likely — frustration, since he probably already knew it wouldn't be enough for victory.

Starting 16th, Svindal trailed Miller through each checkpoint and landed the final jump just



American Bode Miller meets with reporters after taking bronze in the men's downhill on Monday.

inside the blue line painted on the snow to outline the course. Somehow, the big Norwegian managed to shift his weight back onto the race line and crossed two-hundredths ahead of Miller.

Defago was the 18th man on course and was significantly faster than Svindal and Miller on the top. Then he fell behind before posting one of the fastest speeds — 117.2 kph (72.83 mph) — on the bottom and maintaining a slim advantage through coaches' corner, a sweeping 180-degree right turn before the finish that is the run's most challenging section.

While Guay performed admirably, two other Canadians with high hopes struggled.

Manuel Osborne-Paradis was even with Svindal before he got a little wild halfway down and lost a big chunk of time. Robbie Dixon — who has a house in Whistler — fell on the bottom.

U.S. downhill captain Marco Sullivan of Squaw Valley, Calif., also fell after losing his balance in midair through a jump on the bottom section. He placed his right ski nearly perpendicular to the snow and then sat back as he landed and slid through a gate.

The other American finishers

were Steven Nyman of Sundance, Utah, in 20th and Andrew Weibrecht of Lake Placid, N.Y., in 21st.

Weibrecht was the fourth starter and radioed up a course report for Miller.

"It's dark and it's bumpy, but otherwise there's no issues," Weibrecht said. "We can go straight at this thing. The only thing you've got to be aware of is that the speeds are up everywhere."

The race was originally scheduled for Saturday but was postponed for 48 hours due to the mix of warm temperatures, heavy snowfall, rain and fog that have wreaked havoc with the Alpine schedule at the Vancouver Games.

Conditions were still overcast Monday but the temperature fell below freezing overnight, making the course hard enough for skiers to dig their edges in and maintain control.

Flat and dim light created some visibility problems, although there was none of the mid-mountain fog that has plagued the Alpine venue the past several days.

The men race again in the super-combined Tuesday, with Miller among the favorites for another medal.

CYCLING

French issue arrest warrant for Landis for data hacking

Associated Press

PARIS — A French judge has issued a national arrest warrant for U.S. cyclist Floyd Landis in connection with a case of data hacking at a doping laboratory, a prosecutor's office said.

Judge Thomas Cassuto, who is based in the Paris suburb of Nanterre, is seeking to question Landis about computer hacking dating back to September 2006 at the Chatenay-Malabry lab, said Astrid Granoux, spokeswoman for Nanterre's prosecutor's office. The laboratory had uncovered abnormally elevated testosterone levels in Landis' samples collected in the run-up to his 2006 Tour de France victory, leading to the eventual loss of his medal.

Cassuto also issued a national warrant for Arnie Baker, a retired doctor and longtime

Landis coach and adviser, the prosecutor's office said.

Landis denied the hacking allegations in an e-mail to the Los Angeles Times on Monday and said no warrant has been served against him. He said he wasn't sure whether Baker had received a warrant.

"I can't speak for Arnie, but no attempt has been made to formally contact me," Landis said in the e-mail. "It appears to be another case of fabricated evidence by a French lab who is still upset a United States citizen believed he should have the right to face his accusers and defend him-

self."

Earlier Monday, France's anti-doping chief Pierre Bordry had mistakenly described the arrest warrant as international. Granoux stressed that the warrant is only applicable on

French soil. It is possible in such cases to issue an international warrant at a later date if needed.

The American cyclist challenged the drug test results before an arbitration hearing in California — claiming that computer files were mishandled and erased —

but he was stripped of his Tour de France title and banned for two years.

"I can't say I'm happy with this news because I would have preferred there was no Landis case."

Pierre Bordry
French anti-doping chief

OLYMPICS

Bruised Vonn sets quickest pace in training runs

Associated Press

WHISTLER, British Columbia — The bumpy and jarring downhill training course didn't do Lindsey Vonn's badly bruised shin any favors.

Calling it "probably the worst course for my shin," the American Alpine star finished the more testing upper section in the fastest time of the morning training runs Monday — 1 minute, 30.75 seconds, or 0.39 seconds faster than teammate Julia Mancuso.

Skiing the much shorter bottom section after the men's downhill finish, Vonn finished in 18.52 seconds, good for 20th and 0.73 seconds behind Sweden's Anja Paerson.

Those two runs now behind her, Vonn wouldn't mind seeing Tuesday's downhill training session postponed by weather — giving the shin yet another day to heal.

She was fine — all things considered — until landing on the last jump.

"That really hurt," Vonn said. "It's throbbing really bad."

If race officials decide to only run half of the course Tuesday — just to give the skiers more time on the slope — Vonn may elect to skip it.

She's already fulfilled the requirement, according to

race protocol, of all skiers running the course on the same day at least once. So she's all set for the women's downhill scheduled for Wednesday — bumps and all.

"The course here is just so bumpy," Vonn said. "I honestly was pretty shocked. It's one thing when you inspect it and you're like, 'OK, this is going to be a little rattley.' But it was jarring. It was a fight just to make it down the whole way."

Vonn bruised her right shin during a pre-Olympic practice in Austria on Feb. 2. She stayed off skis for more than a week, but tested the injury — with encouraging results — in an unofficial slalom training run Sunday.

The shin was a little tender Monday morning, but that was to be expected. And it didn't seem to hurt her skiing that morning.

"After skiing four runs of pretty good intensity slalom on salted snow, with the conditions the way they are here now, I think even if you had healthy shins, you'd probably have a sore shin today," said Thomas Vonn, who serves as a coach and adviser to his wife. "She's happy to be where she's at, as opposed to where she was a couple of days ago."

Vonn took painkillers and placed numbing cream on her shin — the same treatment

she'll more than likely use the rest of the time in Whistler.

Asked if he thought his wife would still race in all five events at the Olympics, Thomas Vonn said: "She's scheduled to do it. I don't see any reason why she'd pull out of any of them."

Lindsey Vonn had no idea she had been fastest in the morning downhill run. In fact, the news came as quite a shock since she almost skied out in certain parts.

"It wasn't bad skiing; it was just fighting to make it down skiing," Vonn explained. "I've never run a course this bumpy before. It's not a feel-good course. It's not a fun course. It's a just stick-your-nose-in-it-and-make-it-down (course). If you're aggressive and not sliding, I think you'll be fast. I know what I have to do. I know how to ski it. It's just a matter of fighting through the pain."

Before Monday, the women's downhill training run was wiped out three times by weather. The delays due to fog, snow and rain have definitely helped Vonn but it's left the course in less than stellar condition.

"It's so bumpy," said Maria Riesch, who finished the upper section of the training run 1.79 seconds behind Vonn, a top rival and good friend. "It's just a fight from



American Lindsey Vonn trains for the downhill in Vancouver Monday, despite her badly bruised shin.

the top to the bottom, and that's not so much fun. But everybody has to do it. I hope they maybe get it a little bit smoother for the race."

U.S. skier Stacey Cook was 20th after the top section, 1.89 seconds behind Vonn, but that was secondary to her. The morning run for Cook was all about easing her mind after her crash during Thursday's abbreviated training schedule. She was the second — and final — women's skier to go through the course, before training was halted because of thick fog and low visibility.

Cook said she remembers nothing about the crash, which left her with pain and stiffness but no serious injuries.

"But just knowing that it happened and knowing to go back out there and do it again, it was so hard," said Cook, who's from Mammoth, Calif. "My body feels fine. I can work through all that, and there was so much adrenaline. Just mentally I was so nervous in the start."

In the shorter afternoon run, Cook had a solid performance, finishing 0.59 seconds behind Paerson's time.

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NASCAR

Pothole nearly spoils NASCAR's marquee race

Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — There's nothing NASCAR can do to overcome the embarrassment that comes when a pothole nearly swallows the biggest race of the year.

That pesky hole in the pavement stalled the Daytona 500 two different times for more than two hours total, and created the unforgettable image of yellow-clad track workers slopping a pink puddy-like filler into a torn patch of pavement at Daytona International Speedway.

Television viewers across America changed their channels, while fans in attendance streamed toward the gates.

They had every right to turn away.

But they're probably regretting it now.

Tuning out of Sunday's season-opening race meant missing a finish that will go down as one of the best in NASCAR history. There were three attempts to run a two-lap sprint to the finish, and the racing that led to Jamie McMurray beating Dale Earnhardt Jr. was simply

breath-taking.

Greg Biffle saw his shot at victory wiped out by the first of two late cautions, setting up a green-white-checked overtime attempt. Kevin Harvick shoved Martin Truex Jr. to the lead, then nearly wrecked the field when he darted in front of Biffle for his own attempt at the win. The second late caution snatched Harvick's near-win away, and set up a sequence of racing that left seasoned NASCAR viewers speechless.

McMurray and Harvick raced each other for the lead, with McMurray using a huge push from good friend Biffle to claim the lead. Carl Edwards made it three-wide behind them to tighten the pack, and give Earnhardt a chance to make some eye-popping moves through the field.

Earnhardt, a 12-time Daytona winner, dodged and darted his way through traffic. He shoved his Chevrolet between Biffle and Clint Bowyer, nearly losing control before sliding out into his own clean air. McMurray, who had put some space on the pack, suddenly had Earnhardt

breathing down on his bumper.

He'd driven from 10th to second in one lap, and no one could believe what they were witnessing.

"Like most people, he came out of nowhere for me," winning car owner Chip Ganassi said. "When I saw him coming, I was like 'Is he on the lead lap? Where's he coming from?' My point being, he came from nowhere, and good for him."

Earnhardt, mired in a horrendous slump that has tested his confidence and frustrated his enormous fan base, ran out of time to chase down McMurray and had to settle for second. The joyous McMurray, embarking on a second chance of sorts with Ganassi, twice broke down in tears in a show of raw emotion that clearly defined the natural reactions NASCAR has asked its drivers to express this season.

Did the unbelievable sequence of on-track racing and off-track excitement save the race? Absolutely.

Is it enough to overlook the pothole that nearly ruined the race? Maybe.

The next few weeks are critical for NASCAR, which is work-

ing overtime to re-energize the fan base through a series of tweaks both on and off the track. NASCAR officials have made competition adjustments to answer driver complaints about the car, and there's been a series of rule changes that are clear responses to fan frustrations.

The most notable recent change came just last week, when NASCAR recognized that finishing races under a caution flag was far from satisfying to a fan who had invested several hours into an event. The exhibition Budweiser Shootout that opened Speedweeks ended with Harvick coasting to the finish under yellow, protected from having to hold off a last-lap challenge.

So NASCAR adjusted the rule, agreeing to allow up to three opportunities to finish the race under green-flag conditions. The new rule was tested Sunday, twice, and undoubtedly helped script the finish.

NASCAR deserves a pat on the back for making the right calls, including the one to do everything possible to patch the Daytona hole so the race could run the full 500 miles.

Problem is, though, casual sports fans probably aren't considering the big picture. Instead, they are left with the image of a pothole being repaired in the middle of NASCAR's showcase event.

To those fringe followers, it was amateur hour. Again.

NASCAR has certainly made its share of mistakes over the last decade, and there are critics who are simply unable to forgive and forget. Some of those gaffes have created a stereotype that NASCAR is some sort of three-ring circus that, try as it might, just can't get anything right.

This isn't one of those cases, though.

Foreseeing a pothole was impossible, and ignoring it once it developed wasn't an option.

NASCAR could have simply called it a day after the first patch failed, sending everyone home 39 laps short of a complete race. Instead, it stood strong during an unfortunate circumstance and refused to waver in an embarrassing moment for the sport.

The end result was one heckuva race.

Sorry if you missed it.

OLYMPICS

Ohno relishes furious nature of short-track skating

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Apolo Anton Ohno skated past the referee, who was trying to sort out another wacky short track finish.

"C'mon, man," Ohno said, practically begging as he broke into a grin.

No need to worry, Apolo.

Olympic medal No. 6 was in the bag.

The American who made the soul patch fashionable — even the women were wearin' em — pulled out a silver medal in the 1,500-meter final Saturday night when two South Koreans took each other out on the final turn, allowing Ohno to tie Bonnie Blair for most medals won by a U.S. Winter Olympian.

Korea still got the gold, which went to Lee Jung-su, out front and out of the trouble that gobbled up his teammates. But Ohno had no complaints about being the runner-up, especially when he swerved into the final turn in fourth, all hope of a medal appearing lost.

"Pretty intense," Ohno said. "This is what this sport is all about."

In short track, the most freakish of Olympic sports, it's never over until everyone's across the line — and, sometimes, even then it's not over.

Disqualifications are common, and Ohno thought he might benefit from one after jostling with Sung Si-bak with a few laps to go, even grabbing at the South Korean to keep from falling.

Turns out, Ohno didn't have to rely on the judges.

The Koreans took themselves out, costing themselves a sweep of the medal podium. Instead, the Americans wound up with both spots behind Lee. Ohno was second, and 19-year-old

bronze medalist J.R. Celski, skating in his first meet since a bloody, gruesome crash at the U.S. trials in September, got bronze.

It's the first time the Americans have put two skaters on the podium in an Olympic short track event.

"We thought Korea would get not only gold, but silver and bronze," Lee said through a translator. "Short track is a game that is very unpredictable. Even though you've had a lot of practice, you don't know what's going to happen."

The officials took a while to sort things out. Toting an American flag that had been tossed to him right after the race, Ohno skated past the head referee to make a good-natured plea for his silver medal to stand up.

Even after the results were posted on the scoreboard, Ohno seemed to have trouble believing it was official. He kept staring at the scoreboard, lingering at the edge of the boards to make sure all was good.

It was.

Ohno, who now has two medals of each color, moved past Eric Heiden as the most decorated American male at the Winter Games and also claimed the mark for most short track medals since the wild-and-wooly sport joined the Olympic program in 1992.

Heiden, now the team doctor for U.S. Speedskating, told The Associated Press he was "glued to the television" while working in the training room at the Olympic Village.

"The thing that really sets him apart is he's been doing this for a number of years," Heiden said when reached on his cell phone. "We've learned to appreciate what dedication and hard work he's had to put in. He's a prod-

uct of both those things."

Ohno has three more events at the Vancouver Games to pass Blair — two individual races, plus the relay.

"I've come prepared, more than I've ever prepared for anything in my life," Ohno said. "I'm in a very, very good place."

Ohno eliminated Canadian favorite Charles Hamelin in the semifinals with a daring inside move, drawing groans from many of the red-clad fans in the packed house at Pacific Coliseum. But there was still plenty of red-white-and-blue cheering for the 27-year-old American, who is practically a hometown favorite at these games.

Vancouver is just a three-hour drive north of suburban Seattle, where Ohno was born and raised by a single father, getting his start in skating with wheels under his feet rather than blades.

"It feels like home soil to me," he said. "We just have so much support in the crowd."

Yuki Ohno cheered on his son and afterward took plenty of pictures with his cell phone.

"We didn't come here to break the record. It's kind of a bonus to him," his dad said. "His confidence level is just way up there."

Ohno won his first medal at the 2002 Salt Lake City Games when a crash on the final turn took out every skater but one, Australia's Steven Bradbury, who coasted across the line as perhaps the flukiest gold medalist ever. Ohno, his leg gashed by a skate blade, crawled across the line for a silver.

Talk about symmetry.

Ohno's sixth medal was claimed under similar circumstances, though this time he didn't have to spill any blood. The powerful South Koreans



American Apolo Ohno, 66, leads the pack during the men's 1500-meter short-track finals on Saturday in Vancouver.

put three skaters in the final, and it looked as though they would sweep the medals when all of them shot ahead of Ohno on the final lap.

"Myself and everybody here thought it was finished and done with," Heiden said. "Typical short track. It's never over 'til it's over. It's sort of déjà vu with what happened in Salt Lake City with Bradbury."

Ohno nearly crashed when he got tangled up with Sung, actually sticking out his right arm to fend off the South Korean — and perhaps keep himself up as

he stumbled. Once Ohno regained his balance, it looked as though the Koreans were gone.

Then came the final turn.

Lee was out front and avoided trouble. But Lee Ho-suk cut in on Sung while trying to set up a last-second pass on Lee, and they both slid into the padded barrier, their medal hopes dashed in a heap. Ohno skated right on by, as did Celski.

"I skated a very aggressive race. I was battling with some of the best skaters in the world. It was a crazy race," Ohno said.

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NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Henry helps Kansas defeat Texas A&M

Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Xavier Henry scored 12 points, including several free throws down the stretch, to help top-ranked Kansas escape with a 59-54 win over No. 24 Texas A&M on Monday night.

It's the 11th consecutive victory for Kansas (25-1, 11-0 Big 12) and breaks a 16-game home winning streak for Texas A&M (18-7, 7-4).

Kansas trailed for much of the second half and was behind by four before going on a 7-2 run, capped by a free throw by Henry, to take a 55-54 lead with 3 1/2 minutes remaining. The Jayhawks pushed the lead to 57-54 moments later when Bryan Davis was called for goaltending on a shot by Cole Aldrich.

Henry hit two more free throws with about 30 seconds remaining to seal the win.

Marcus Morris and Aldrich added 12 points apiece for Kansas.

Texas A&M was led by David Loubeau's 17 points and Donald Sloan had 15.

The Jayhawks let the Aggies hang around in this one because of poor 3-point shooting and trouble with offensive rebounding. Kansas made just one of 10 3-pointers and was outrebounded 20 to eight on offense.

Texas A&M took a 48-44 lead with about eight minutes left after David Loubeau hit the first of two free throws. He made a jumper on the previous possession.

Kansas cut the lead to two points when Sherron Collins made his first basket of the

game — after missing his first six — on a jumper in the lane seconds.

The Aggies led by one before a layup by Loubeau made it 41-38 with about 13 1/2 minutes remaining. He was fouled on the shot, but missed the free throw. Tyrel Reed hit Kansas' first 3-pointer of the game less than a minute later to tie it at 41-all.

Kansas got ahead several times early in the second half, with one coming when Markieff Morris hit two free throws to make it 38-37 with about 15 minutes remaining.

Texas A&M's Dash Harris sat out the last 10 minutes of the first half after falling hard to the court after his shot was blocked. He had to be carried off the court by his teammates. He returned for the second half and finished with six points and four rebounds.

Kansas jumped out to an 8-2 lead but Texas A&M went on a 14-4 run to take a four-point lead with about 13 minutes remaining. There were several lead changes after that before a jump shot by Loubeau put the Aggies ahead 32-30 at halftime.

UConn 84, Villanova 75

PHILADELPHIA — A "must win" for Connecticut turned into just another upset of a Big East top 10 team.

Kemba Walker scored a career-high 29 points and the Huskies continued the four-day run of losses by Big East top 10 teams, beating No. 3 Villanova on Monday night.

Connecticut (15-11, 5-8) was coming off a 60-48 loss to Cincinnati, one of its worst offensive performances in years. The Huskies hit the 48-point mark less than four minutes into the second half.

The loss to Cincinnati came in Calhoun's first game back after a 3 1/2-week medical leave. He call it "embarrassing." This wiped away some of that feeling.

"We looked like a UConn team tonight," he said. "It was a terrific win for us at a terrific time against a terrific team."

The Huskies became the fourth team to knock off one of the Big East's top teams in a four-day period.

On Friday night, then-No. 5 West Virginia lost to Pittsburgh in triple overtime. On Sunday, Louisville beat then-No. 2 Syracuse and Rutgers beat then-No. 7 Georgetown.

The Huskies continued the upset trend by shooting 67 percent from the field and 80 percent from the free throw line in the second half while holding Scottie Reynolds of the Wildcats (22-3, 11-2) to four of his 18 points.

"I'm so proud of them," Calhoun said. "To use the word embarrassing is a tough thing to say, but I meant it."

The Huskies have five games left in the regular season and the Big East tournament to try and turn around a disappointing season. Connecticut, which had lost five of six, remained 12th in the 16-team league and ended a six-game road losing streak in the Big East.

"I told them let's start from the jump. That's what we did," said Walker, who was 6 of 10 from the field. "We put together a 40-minute game. Probably the first one of the season, to tell you the truth. It was great."

Recruits

continued from page 20

also announced that seven recruits signed letters of intent during the early signing period, including one defender, one mid-field/defender, four mid-fielders and one attack. All of the recruits save one hail from the traditional lacrosse hotbed of the East Coast, especially the Northeast — areas in which Notre Dame has had a strong recruiting presence.

The Irish were chosen to finish third in the league in a preseason poll of the conference's coaches, but were one of three teams that far outpaced the rest of the league alongside regular-season defending champion Georgetown and Syracuse. In addition, both the national coaches and media slotted Notre Dame in the



TOM LA/The Observer

Junior midfielder Shaylyn Blaney was recently named one of this season's captains. Blaney earned second team All-American honors last season.

No. 8 spot in a preseason national poll, giving the team weighty expectations for the season to come.

The Irish will be tested this spring, as eight of the

teams they face are in the top 20 in the nation.

Contact Allan Joseph at ajoseph@nd.edu

NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Huskies win 65th straight

Associated Press

NORMAN, Okla. — Tiffany Hayes scored 20 points, Maya Moore added 18 points and 10 rebounds and top-ranked Connecticut got a rare second-half scare before pulling away to beat No. 11 Oklahoma 76-60 Monday night and extend its unbeaten streak to 65 straight games.

Making their last foray outside Big East play before the postseason, the Huskies (26-0) trailed in the second half for only the second time this season, but Moore had six points during a 13-2 response as UConn regained control.

Oklahoma (18-7) rallied back from a 14-point, first-half deficit and led with 16 minutes left before Connecticut clamped down and started forcing the Sooners to settle for jump shots.

Danielle Robinson scored 18 points to lead Oklahoma, and Amanda Thompson added 16 points and 13 rebounds.

The Sooners had UConn trailing the latest in a game this season — by about a minute — but then started scuffling on offense. They were trailing by three when they had to force shots on back-to-back possessions with the shot clock running down, and the Huskies didn't afford them any more opportunities.

Tina Charles hit a foul line jumper, Caroline Doty nailed a 3-pointer from the left side and Moore connected on a jumper in the lane after a scrum for an offensive rebound as Connecticut's lead grew to 51-41 with 10:29 left. Oklahoma was still within 10 with under 6 minutes left before the Huskies inched away to win by double digits as they have throughout their winning streak — the second-longest in women's basketball history.

The Huskies also hold that record with 70 in a row from 2001 to 2003.

"The more aggressive we got, the more confidence we got," Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma said. "We've been a little bit unconfident lately and it shows up in our shooting."

Charles had 19 points and nine rebounds and Kalana Greene had 14 points for UConn. Oklahoma went 10-for-17 on free throws, with most of the

misses coming when the Huskies were well within reach.

Connecticut got off to its usual fast start, opening its first double-digit lead in the first 7 1/2 minutes and going up 26-12 when Greene got behind the defense for an easy layup with 8:39 left in the first half.

Sooners coach Sherri Coale called timeout immediately after that basket and deployed a 2-3 zone that slowed a Huskies' offense that had been creating layups with relative ease. She went to a 1-3-1 a few possessions later and disrupted UConn even more, with Oklahoma scoring the final eight points of the half to get within 32-30.

Thompson took an inbound pass from Robinson right under the basket and banked in a layup, then bounded the full length of the court as though the Sooners had just won the game on a buzzer-beater.

It was only the fourth time since the winning streak began that an opponent was within two points of Connecticut at halftime.

Oklahoma went ahead for the first time on Thompson's jumper with 18:10 left in the game and Robinson was able to answer baskets by Greene and Moore to put the Sooners up twice more. Greene then scored off a baseline inbound pass to put UConn back on top 40-39 with 15:46 left, and the Huskies started pulling away from there.

Moore followed with a 3-pointer in transition and, after Thompson's layup for Oklahoma, Connecticut reeled off eight straight points to restore its double-digit cushion.

Florida State 69, Georgia Tech 59

ATLANTA — Florida State didn't play like one of the ACC's best shooting teams in the first half Monday night. Then the No. 10 Seminoles got their offense going.

Jacinta Monroe and Alysha Harvin led a second-half rally as Florida State (22-4, 8-2) defeated No. 19 Georgia Tech to hand the Yellow Jackets their first home loss of the season.

Monroe had 12 of her 14 points in the second half and Harvin scored 11 of her 14 after intermission as Florida State hot 45.5 percent compared to just

29.2 percent in the first half.

"She put the first in us and told us to go out and play," said Monroe of coach Sue Semrau's halftime talk. "We had to adjust our heart and our effort."

The Seminoles, down by 10 points in the first half, broke the game open with a 14-4 run midway in the second half, taking a 56-45 lead with six minutes left. The Yellow Jackets, who had won 12 straight at home, never got closer than five points the rest of the game.

"Georgia Tech is one of the most athletic, best defensive teams we've seen," Semrau said. "They came out throwing the first punches, we responded."

Brigitte Ardossi scored 23 points to lead Georgia Tech (20-6, 6-4). Sasha Goodlett added 16 points and Alex Montgomery, who reached 1,000 points for her career, had 13 rebounds to go with 10 points.

Florida State gave up 13 offensive rebounds to the Yellow Jackets in the first half and couldn't get the ball inside itself. But the Seminoles had 20 points in the paint during the second half and also hit four of nine shots from behind the 3-point arc.

"We were on our heels a little bit," Semrau said of the first-half offensive struggles. "Sometimes pressure (defense) will do that. In the second half, we figured out how to attack it and the kids did a great job in the offense."

Courtney Ward had 10 assists and joined Florida State teammate Chasity Clayton with nine points. The 6-foot-5 Monroe had nine rebounds and three blocks.

Georgia Tech shot just 32.8 percent, with Montgomery going 2 of 14, and was 2 of 13 on 3-pointers. Deja Foster shot 1 of 7 and had only two points.

"Our bigs played well, but I thought our perimeter players needed to step up," Yellow Jackets coach MaChelle Joseph said. "Alex did a tremendous job on the boards, but her shot just wasn't falling. We can't win a game without our key players, especially against a team like Florida State."

Georgia Tech was ahead 22-12 with less than five minutes left in the first half thanks to a 15-2 spurt, but Florida State cut the Yellow Jackets' lead to 26-23 at halftime with an 11-4 run.

Pacific Coast Concerts
Proudly Presents in South Bend, Indiana
Welcomed by Heineken/93.5 WAOR

CHEECH & CHONG
special guest **SHELBY CHONG**
Sunday April 11, 2010 • 8:00 pm
Morris Performing Arts Center
South Bend, Indiana
Tickets go on sale Friday February 19 at 4:20 pm at Morris Box Office, charge by phone 574/235-9190, www.morriscenter.org
SuperSounds in Goshen and LaPorte Civic Auditorium Box Office • Limit 8 Tickets Per Person

Pacific Coast Concerts
Proudly Presents in Benton Harbor, Michigan

STU
Saturday February 27 • 8:00pm
Lake Michigan College
Mainstage Theatre
Benton Harbor, Michigan
Tickets on sale now at the Lake Michigan College Mainstage Box Office, Audio Specialists on State Road 933 North in South Bend, LaPorte Civic Auditorium Box Office, Charge by phone 269/927-1221 or online www.lmcmainstage.org
Limit 10 tickets per person.

Pacific Coast Concerts
Proudly Presents in South Bend, Indiana

HALESTORM
special guest **ADELITAS WAY**
Saturday March 6, 2010 • 7:00 pm
Club Fever • South Bend, Indiana

PINETOP PERKINS
with **WILLIE "BIG EYES" SMITH**
and Band featuring South Bend's LITTLE FRANK on guitar
Wednesday March 10, 2010 • 7:30 pm
Club Fever • South Bend, Indiana
Tickets on sale now at Club Fever/Backstage Bar & Grill, Morris Performing Arts Center Box Office, charge by phone 574/235-9190 or online www.morriscenter.org
Also at all Ticketmaster locations including Orbit Music/Hishawoka, Karma Records/Plymouth, SuperSounds/Elkhart, Wooden Nickel Records/Fort Wayne, and www.ticketmaster.com.
• 21 and over admitted • This is a no smoking show •

Qualifier

continued from page 20

tus was her first honor of the kind after she finished 20:43 at the NCAAs to be Notre Dame's top finisher.

Connolly attributes Ferguson's success to her work ethic and dedication to her sport over the past four years.

"She is the type of leader who inspires her teammates with her hard work and consistency," Connolly said. "She comes every day ready to work hard and get better, and challenges her teammates to do the same."

Ferguson's efforts have already paid off this indoor season as she has set two NCAA qualifying marks. Ferguson qualified in the mile with a time of 4:45.92 and in the 3,000-meter race. Five Irish athletes and one women's distance medley team have set NCAA qualifying marks so far in the indoor season.

Notre Dame will compete this weekend at its most competitive and challenging meet

yet, the Big East indoor championships. Last season, Ferguson finished eighth in the 3,000-meter. This season, Connolly anticipates that Ferguson will thrive at the Big East championships and at other upper echelon meets to follow.

"She is very, very fit and excited about competing against the best people in the country," Connolly said. "We expect some great things for Lindsay in the coming weeks."

This weekend, Ferguson has the potential to add another NCAA

qualifying mark to the two already recorded.

"I would look for her to add a [NCAA] qualifier in the 5000-meters as well as improve her 3000-meter mark this weekend," Connolly said. "If she can do that, she will make a huge contribution to our team's effort."

Ferguson and the Irish travel to New York this weekend to compete in the Big East Championships.

Contact Kaitlyn Murphy at kmurph28@nd.edu

"She comes every day ready to work hard and get better, and challenges her teammates to do the same."

Tim Connolly
Irish coach

Schrader

continued from page 20

coming off of a close game with Connecticut," McGraw said. "I think they are probably feeling really confident, I'm sure they are talking about how they let it get away and how they now have a chance to beat a really good team coming to their own court."

Countering this kind of anticipated intensity from a team will not be easy, but McGraw hopes to accomplish it by sticking to the fundamentals she has preached all year

long.

"We have to match their intensity, defensive pressure, and rebounding," McGraw said.

The Red Storm also have a lot of quickness and speed, and McGraw hopes her team can stack up with a combination of motivation and athleticism. St John's is led in scoring by sophomore forward Da'Shena Stevens, who is averaging 13.9 points per game.

"They are really athletic. They are very, very quick team, they drive the ball well," McGraw said. "They just really get to basket and they are

going to be a really big challenge for us defensively."

The way to counter an athletic team like this is to win the turnover battle, which has been a part of McGraw's game plan all year long.

"Our philosophy this year has been to cause a lot of turnovers. We always like to cause turnovers, to press," McGraw said. "That has been our game-plan all year long."

The Irish will look to stay one step ahead of the Red Storm tonight at 7 p.m. in Queens, N.Y.

Contact Jared Jedick at jjedick@nd.edu

Doubles

continued from page 20

After seeing how the Irish bounced back after their loss to North Carolina, the amount of experimenting needed might be minimal. In the team's last two matches, Notre Dame responded to the pressure brilliantly, beating Kansas 7-0 and then taking what could be a season-defining victory from No. 16 Michigan.

"The Michigan match was a really good match for us," Louderback said. "We competed really well.

It was good to see us compete in a way we haven't."

Notre Dame pulled out a 4-3 victory after trailing virtually the entire match with a few gritty performances by Irish players to knock out the Wolverines.

"We were behind pretty much the whole match," Louderback said. "Shannon Matthews especially hung in there after being down and Chrissie McGaffigan also pulled out a close match."

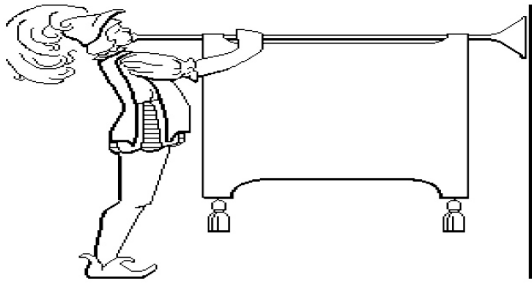
Also winning for the Irish were senior Kali Krisik and sophomore Kristy Frilling. Frilling, the 30th-ranked player in

the nation, improved her record to 6-0 this year and has been a staple at the top of the team's line up.

"She's always been so good, a real model of consistency," Louderback said.

As the Irish look ahead, they are hoping to use the momentum from the victory over Michigan and their time off to propel them into a busy string of home matches. Notre Dame will face Illinois at 1 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Contact John Helms at jhelms2@nd.edu



Announcing the Year 2010 Annual Awards of the Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship

Thanks to a generous gift from the Albert Ravarino family, the Italian Studies Program is pleased to announce the year 2010 annual competition for travel in support of summer research and foreign study in Italy. Grants will be made in amounts not to exceed \$3,000, and will not normally cover all expenses. Notre Dame graduate and undergraduate students who are planning to pursue research or a formal program of summer study in Italy are invited to apply. Students must have completed at least one year of Italian language. The course work will normally be in Italian; will involve the study of Italian language, literature, and culture; and must be applicable to a student's degree program at the University of Notre Dame.

Recommended programs for foreign study include, but are not limited to: Loyola University in Rome, Boston University in Padua, UCLA in Pisa, Miami University in Urbino, Columbia University in Scandiano. Interested students are encouraged to consult the materials on Italian foreign study in the Department of Romance Languages, 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall.

Students are invited to submit a letter which should include:

- 1) an explanation of how the proposed research or foreign study will enhance their degree program at Notre Dame;
- 2) a personal statement indicating their background, interests, and long-term goals;
- 3) a description of the research project or the program they intend to follow;
- 4) a budget indicating the costs involved;
- 5) two letters of recommendation
- 6) a transcript showing all grades and courses completed
- 7) a list of other sources of funding (being sought or confirmed) for the same project (i.e. Office of International Studies, Nanovic Institute, etc.)

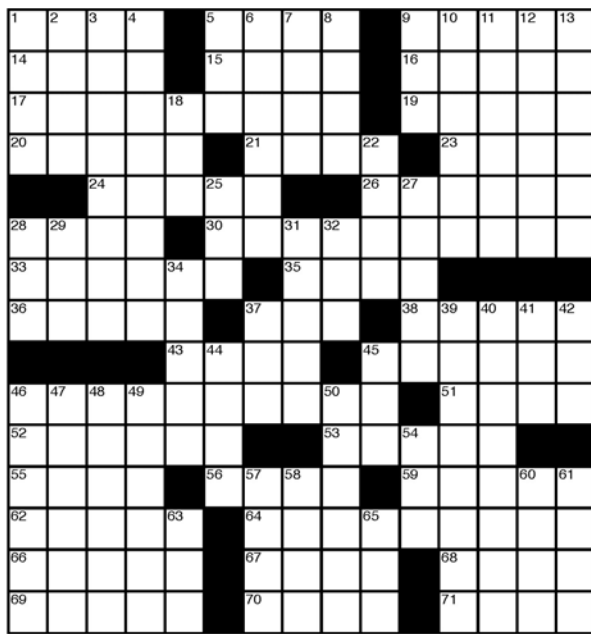
Application Deadline: Friday, February 26, 2010
Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship
Program in Italian Studies
343 O'Shaughnessy Hall
University of Notre Dame

Please recycle The Observer.

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Ear part
 - 5 Date with an M.D.
 - 9 Restaurant chain whose logo features a western hat
 - 14 Gumbo vegetable
 - 15 Carson predecessor
 - 16 Long-legged fisher
 - 17 Gummy dessert, to a five-year-old?
 - 19 "Hello, Don Ho!"
 - 20 Part of S.W.A.K.
 - 21 Greek god of war
 - 23 "Are you ___ out?"
 - 24 Bird known for making baskets
 - 26 Best Supporting Actor for "Cocoon"
 - 28 Not many
 - 30 Grub consumed around the dinner table?
 - 33 Sasha and Malia's father
 - 35 Prayer's end
 - 36 No-brainer in school
 - 37 Meditation syllables
 - 38 It might be fixed or frozen
 - 43 Picket line crosser
 - 45 October blooms
 - 46 One who's daft about archaeology?
 - 51 Cornstarch brand
 - 52 Sound before a blessing
 - 53 Pitcher Satchel
 - 55 Peter the Great, for one
 - 56 [Oh, my stars!]
 - 59 Twenty : English :: ___ : Italian
 - 62 No longer sick
 - 64 X, to a pirate?
 - 66 "___ having fun yet?"
 - 67 Hard-core followers, in politics
- Down**
- 1 "Livin' la Vida ___"
 - 2 "Enough already!"
 - 3 Young chickens suitable for dinner
 - 4 Erodes
 - 5 Monkey's uncle?
 - 6 Mango alternative
 - 7 Ark unit
 - 8 Genealogy chart
 - 9 Cry of discovery
 - 10 Help from a bullpen
 - 11 Rodeo horse
 - 12 Start of a pirate's chant
 - 13 Caught in a trap
 - 18 Mideast land since 1948: Abbr.
 - 22 "Dollar days" event
 - 25 ___ Bridge, connecting Manhattan, Queens and the Bronx
 - 27 Mocking birds?
 - 28 Prez on a penny
 - 29 Air safety grp.
 - 31 "West Side Story" shout during "The Dance at the Gym"
 - 32 Sends an OMG or LOL, say
 - 34 Tokyo-based synthesizer maker
 - 68 "Garfield" canine
 - 69 Good name for a lingerie salesman?
 - 70 Zenith
 - 71 Prefix with phone



Puzzle by Patrick Blindauer and Rebecca Young

- 37 Big galoot
- 39 Parent in the wings, perhaps
- 40 Play to the balcony?
- 41 Bit of energy
- 42 General on Chinese menus
- 44 Drano target
- 45 One of the eight states bordering Tenn.
- 46 Influential moneybags
- 47 "And I'm the queen of England"
- 48 Yellow
- 49 Cunning
- 50 Stand against
- 54 It climbs the walls
- 57 Pop group whose name is coincidentally a rhyme scheme
- 58 Ivory, e.g.
- 60 Math subj. with many functions
- 61 Big furniture retailer
- 63 Susan of "L.A. Law"
- 65 Many a cowpoke's handle

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Brandon Boyd, 34; Matt Groening, 56; Melissa Manchester, 59; Jane Seymour, 59

Happy Birthday: You'll have an interesting way of approaching people and you will achieve your personal goals in an unexpected, unique manner that may be confusing for family and friends. Greater focus on what you can do will bring about the changes you need to make within your partnerships and with regard to the people you work with and for. Your numbers are 4, 7, 11, 20, 26, 37, 42

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't fret over something that hasn't happened. Do your best and offer what you can without hesitation. Your willingness to be a participant instead of an onlooker will separate you from the crowd. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will impress far more people with productivity. If you can offer your services at a discount when times are tough, you will secure your position. Kindness and generosity will be repaid. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You may have to do some fast-talking to avoid a scene. Don't let anyone put you in a precarious position by trying to pin something on you that is only partially your fault. Own up and move on. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Trust your own mind to make the decisions that will benefit you most. Love is in the stars and making time for an enjoyable encounter with someone special will help you feel emotionally secure. Self-improvement projects will go well. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Aggressive talks will help you stabilize your position and can mark territory for a prosperous future. A creative suggestion will intrigue the people who can turn your ideas into reality. Be honest about what you have to bring to the table. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't wait for someone else to make a decision that will affect you. Jump in and make whatever adjustments are required to ensure your own success and happiness. If you don't speak up, you have nothing to complain about. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your focus should be on home, family and relationships. Don't let a change at work cause you concern. Take care of your own responsibilities and you will be free to give your attention to the people in your life who really count. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Avoid fights, disputes and people who meddle. Concentrate on the creative, the exciting and whatever will lead to a new adventure. There is no point wasting time over something you cannot change. A love relationship can take on a new life if you throw a few promises in the mix. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Everything you say and do will be scrutinized. Explain your every move with extreme accuracy and get approval before you do something that may be questioned. A love relationship may be jeopardized if you are too familiar with others. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't let an old competitor get the better of you now. A knowledgeable view of whatever situation you face will enable you to control the outcome. Mix the old with the new for a workable solution. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Use your head when it comes to money matters. With a good budget, you can set your finances in order. Someone you work with or for may be angry if you haven't held up your end of a deal. Be ready to make amends. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A deal can be struck and a partnership started if you lay down some ground rules and are willing to put the past behind you. A show of emotions will help you gain sympathy and assistance. ★★★

Birthday Baby: you are intuitive, creative and unique in your approach to people and projects. You are reliable and thoughtful, affectionate and sensitive.

SCHAD & FREUDE

WILL GUAPPONE & BRI KRAFCIK



T.I.N.D.

DAN POHLMAN

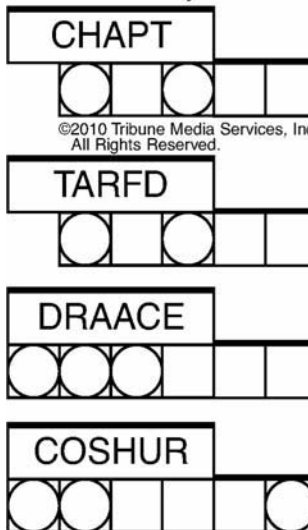


JUMBLE

JEFF KNUREK
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Ans: A [Circled letters: H, A, R, A, C, H, I, N, G]

(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: VYING CANAL MUSCLE APPALL
Answer: It can take a big outlay for this — A SMALL INLAY



THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Breaking the Storm

McGraw uncertain if Schrader will play, but they will bring her uniform to New York

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

As the No. 4 Irish prepare for one of the toughest Big East road games of the season against No. 22 St. John's, the question on everybody's minds is if senior captain Lindsay Schrader will be able to suit up for the Irish after spraining her left ankle Sunday.

"We are bringing her uniform," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said of the senior guard. "We are not sure if she is going to be able to play; it will be a game-time decision."

If Schrader is unable to play, the Irish (23-1, 10-1 Big East) will miss her production, as she is the third leading scorer on the team with an average 11.3 points per game and the leading rebounder with an average 7.3 rebounds per game.

"I think we have a very balanced team, and we have a lot

of different weapons, so we will just have to wait for game time and see what happens," McGraw said.

What the Irish would really miss in Schrader's absence is her emotional leadership on the court, a presence that McGraw does not take lightly.

"We are counting on having her out there, but I thought we did a nice job without her in the DePaul game," McGraw said. "I thought the guards played very well. I thought [junior forwards] Devereux Peters and Becca [Bruszewski] and everybody stepped up and played well."

What worries McGraw and the Irish is to have to rush into a game so quickly after losing such a player, especially against a St. John's (20-5, 8-4 Big East) team that has risen into the national rankings.

"It's a big game for them

see SCHRADER/page 18



Senior guard Lindsay Schrader watches as her teammates defeat DePaul Sunday in the "Pink Zone" game after spraining her ankle in the first half. It will be a game-time decision if she will play tonight.

SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Irish name captains, recruit new players, ready to start

By ALLAN JOSEPH
Sports Writer

The Irish have been busy over the last couple weeks as they prepare for the quickly approaching spring season. Notre Dame has already scrimmaged with the U.S. national team, added recruits for next year and named its captains to make for a strong campaign.

In late January, the team traveled to Florida for the Champion Challenge sponsored by U.S. Lacrosse. The Irish opened against the National Elite team, quickly falling behind 12-1 within 20 minutes en route to a 23-7 loss. The loss was highlighted by the strong debuts of freshman attack Betsy Mastropieri with one goal and freshman goalkeeper Ellie Hilling, who had 10 saves.

The Irish finished the weekend with a much more competitive 15-11 loss to the U.S. National Developmental team. Senior attack Gina Scioscia scored three goals, while sophomore attack Maggie Tamasitis and freshman midfielder Jenny Granger each had three-point performances in the loss. Notre Dame showed its ability to score with nearly any player as nine different

players scored at least once.

Prior to their trip to Florida, the Irish selected three seniors — defenseman Rachel Guerrero, midfielder Maggie Zentgraf and Scioscia — and a junior, midfielder Shaylyn Blaney, to serve as the team's captains for the upcoming season.

None of the players have served the team as captain before, but all have led the

team on and off the field. Scioscia and Blaney earned second-team All-American honors last year, while Guerrero was named all-region. Scioscia was selected as the 2010 preseason Big East offensive player of the year, while Scioscia, Blaney and Guerrero were preseason all-Big East selections.

Irish coach Tracy Coyne

see RECRUITS/page 18

WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Ferguson leads on the track

By KAITLYN MURPHY
Sports Writer

After ending her senior cross country season finishing 30th at the NCAA Championships, Irish distance runner Lindsay Ferguson continues to record top marks in the indoor track season. Cross country and distance coach Tim Connelly spoke of Ferguson as a crucial component to the team's success alongside her personal accomplishments.

"[Ferguson] helped lead our team to the Regional Championship and a spot at the NCAA Championships, where she earned All-American status," he said.

Ferguson's All-American sta-

see QUALIFIER/page 17



Senior Lindsay Ferguson will hope to carry her cross-country success into the track indoor Big East championships this weekend.

SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish preparing to host string of competitors

By JOHN HELMS
Sports Writer

The Irish have suffered only one loss this season and, after a weekend off after two recent victories, they are well prepared to enter the most demanding part of the regular season.

No. 13 Notre Dame will kick off a series of home matches this weekend when it hosts Illinois Saturday for the first of five matches in eight days.

The Irish had the weekend off due to their 5-2 loss to No. 11 North Carolina Jan. 31. The loss ended Notre Dame's three-match win streak and kept them

from advancing to the National Team indoor championships' round of 15 teams in Madison, Wisc. However, as Irish coach Jay Louderback said, sometimes things work out for the best.

"We're going to use this weekend off and really try to make the best of it," he said.

One of the biggest questions going into this season was the Irish's doubles play. There hasn't been any major concern so far, but Louderback said the team would use the weekend off to experiment a little.

see DOUBLES/page 18